Hafa Adai!

NMI Judiciary has one confirmed case of COVID-19. PAGE 2
Torres urges JGO Committee to respect employees' testimony. PAGE 7

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXI, Issue No. 233

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98 NEW POSITIVE CASES

From left, Stephanie Kern-Allely, who is a regional communicable disease epidemiologist for the Pacific Island Health Officers Association, is joined in yesterday's virtual news briefing by Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muña, Governor's COVID-19 Task Force chair Warren Villagomez, and governor's authorized representative Patrick Guerrero. Photos are screeengrabs from yesterday's virtual news briefing.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

'Still zero severe cases'

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In what is seen as the biggest surge so far in the CNMI, a total of 98 new cases of COVID-19 were identified on Nov. 22, mostly through community-based testing, or CBT.

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RELATED NEWS

- NMI Judiciary has one confirmed case of COVID-19. **PAGE 2**
- 'COVID-19 Task Force is stepping it up'—Villagomez. **PAGE 2**
- 'Vaxx rates for PSS staff, students are pretty high' **PAGE 6**

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

AT A GLANCE

As of 5:38pm, Nov. 23, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated: **85%**

Days since last community transmission: **1**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	33,330
Fully Vaccinated:	30,298
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,947
Fully Vaccinated:	4,759
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	967

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	19,092	25	19,117
Recovered	16,995	128	17,123
Active	1,706	25	1,731
Deaths	263	0	263

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	464	98	562
Traced via Travel Screening	266	0	266
Traced via Community Screening	198	98	296
Deaths	3	0	3

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

'Containment is the goal moving forward'

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The emergence of 98 new COVID-19 cases is concerning, said Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muña, but the CNMI's health leaders will continue to move forward with its focus on vaccinations, community-based testing, and containing the further spread of COVID-19.

During a virtual news briefing yesterday, Muña said her main message is that COVID-19 is "definitely here" the goal moving forward is containment and that combatting the virus is a community effort.

"The numbers are large,

See GOAL on Page 4

Former AG Kara passes away at 76

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former CNMI Attorney General Maya B. Kara passed away Friday morning at her home on Capital Hill after a long battle with cancer. She was 76.

Kara served as the CNMI attorney general from 1998 to 2000 and served several times as president of the NMI Bar Association.

"She was my best friend. We were together for 43 years," said Kara's husband, Bruce Mailman, in a phone interview last night.

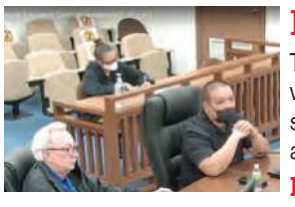
Kara and Mailman have three children.

He said that Kara spent a year in Honolulu to get

See KARA on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
The chief of security for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres appear before the House JGO Committee.
PAGE 3



LOCAL
The Public School System's vaccination rates for staff and students alike in the CNMI are pretty high.
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LOCAL
Four CNMI students top the 8th Pacifica Art Contest of Pacifica Insurance Underwriters.
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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

NMI Judiciary has one confirmed case of COVID-19

The NMI Judiciary issued a memorandum yesterday informing staff that an employee has tested positive for COVID-19. The diagnosed individual was not present in the Guma Hustisia in the days preceding the positive test result.

The safety of Judiciary employees and court patrons continues to be the No. 1 priority. "Judiciary facilities on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian are equipped with hand sanitizers, face masks, general sanitization supplies, UVC disinfection equipment, and offices, courtrooms, and other common areas are routinely sanitized. The Judiciary has been proactive in the fight against COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic," said the Director of Courts Sonia A. Camacho. "In early-2021, the Judiciary completed its hallmark Screening and Security Zone with funds provided through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. The Screening and Security Zone includes a waiting area, large enough to comply with social distancing precautions. UV-ray light technology is also utilized in the queue area and other parts of the Guma Hustisia to disinfect the air, surfaces, and patrons' personal belongings."

Additionally, on Nov. 2, 2021, the NMI Supreme Court announced, via Supreme Court Administrative Order 2021-ADM-0017-MSC, that effective Dec. 3, 2021, all employees must be vaccinated for COVID-19 or undergo weekly COVID-19 testing to assist in Commonwealth-wide efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Currently, nearly 95% of Judiciary employees are vaccinated.

The Judiciary remains open in accordance with their Public Notice 21-007. To access the public notice, visit www.nmijudiciary.com. To access the most recent Supreme Court COVID-19 Order, visit www.cnmilaw.org. ***(PR)***

'COVID-19 Task Force is stepping it up'—Villagomez

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With the latest report of 98 new cases of COVID-19 in the CNMI, the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force is "stepping up a notch" its COVID-19 containment efforts, according to task force chair Warren F. Villagomez yesterday.

This includes providing personal protective equipment to government agencies and select establishments and working closely with the leadership on Tinian and Rota.

In his remarks during a virtual news briefing yesterday, Villagomez assured that the CNMI has ample quarantine and isolation rooms, and that he is working closely with Governor's Authorized Representative Patrick Guerrero to ensure that the CNMI's active sites all have adequate resources, amenities, and infrastructure in place to support the CNMI's efforts in containing the spread of COVID-19.

"The task force is stepping [it] up a notch in regards to all efforts, as well as resources [needed]. ...We are currently distributing PPEs to work areas that had infections to make sure and reassure that the services they provide continue on [and to maintain] the safety of this community," said Villagomez.

For Tinian and Rota, which have not reported any COVID-19 cases thus far, Villagomez said he and the task force are working closely with the two islands' mayors and that there are task force representatives on both islands to ensure that mitigation measures are in place in the event that COVID-19 is transmitted to Saipan's neighboring islands.

When asked if the CNMI has ample COVID-19 testing supplies to support the future expansion of community-based testing efforts, Guerrero assured yesterday that the CNMI has ample COVID-19 testing supplies, and added that a new order for additional supplies was placed "in fact placed a couple of days ago."

"We continue to order testing supplies as needed and as forecasted...because we do compete with other customers of [a COVID-19 testing] supplier, but so far we've been able to acquire whatever is needed for our use here," he said.

Also attending the briefing was CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muña and regional epidemiologist Stephanie Kern-Allely.

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LAPTOP COMPUTER AND ACCESSORIES

INVITATION FOR BIDS
NMC IFB 22-0002

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement and delivery of Information Technology Equipment for NMC CREES offices on Saipan, Rota and Tinian.

The bid specifications and Scope of Work packet may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2021 between the hours of 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**
Electronic packet, Anita Camacho email:
anita.camacho@marinas.edu

Bid submission
Procurement & Property Management Office, Bldg. P, As Terlaje Campus Saipan
Due Date and Time: 10:00am, December 13, 2021, ChST

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through USDA-NIFA authorized under the Hatch Act, as amended August 11, 1955, Award No. NI20HFPXXXXXG059-002 (Regular)/Smith Lever Act section 3b & 3c, Award No. NI17SLBCXXXXG020-004.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all bid offers for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

/s/ Anita Camacho
Procurement & Property Manager

Torres' chief bodyguard testifies before the JGO

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Police Sgt. Joey R. Cruz, who is the chief of security for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, appeared before the House of Representatives Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee yesterday as it continues its investigation into the governor's expenditures of public funds and travel.

Cruz, who appeared with government-paid counsel Janet H. King, said he was assigned as protective security detail for Torres in March or April 2016. After a year he became the chief of PSD and has been supervising other PSD officers assigned to Torres, first lady Diann T. Torres, and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios.

Cruz said he has not signed a non-disclosure agreement during his term with PSD.

In response to Rep. Donald Manglona's (Ind-Rota) questions, Cruz said he has driven Torres to family and political functions.

The sergeant said he does not recall delivering any payments to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. or making any other billing payments for any accounts on behalf of the governor.

Cruz said he was never been on a Department of Public Safety or Department of Lands and Natural Resources boat where the governor was on the vessel and fishing.

He said did not ever go hunting with Torres and his brothers in Boise, Idaho, but did go hiking with the governor.

He said he did not do any personal errands for the governor or go shopping with him.

The sergeant acknowledged picking up cargo for the governor and when asked by Manglona to elaborate, he mentioned sweet potato or fish.

He said he did not pick up any vehicles or any furniture for Torres.

Cruz said he did travel with Torres on first class on official matters, but no first-class plane tickets for him (Cruz) was paid by the government.

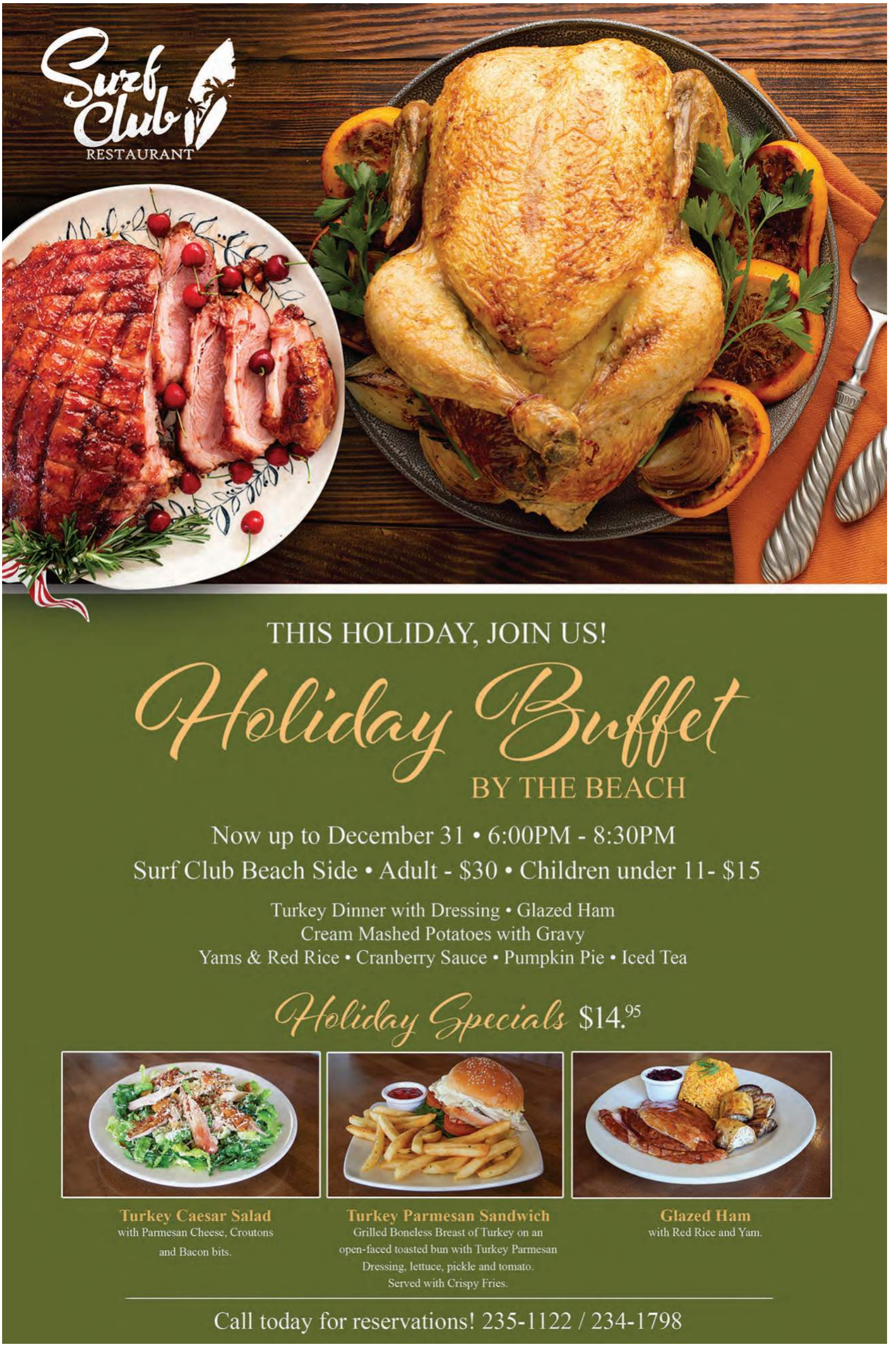
He said he has driven Torres to his residence in As Teo, where he saw a piggery, but he is not aware if it's commercial as he does not know how may pigs were there.

Cruz said he has also driven Torres to a property in Koblerville, but he is not aware if it's the governor's residence although the governor used to live there.

He said he does not recall driving the governor to and from the Miller Estate on Capital Hill, but recalled driving him to the Flame Tree Terrace Apartments in Sadog Tasi but does not remember if Torres met anyone there.

When JGO Committee chair Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) asked him if he has driven the governor to campaign or political events on Saipan, he replied: "Madam chair, my responsibility is to provide protective service detail to the governor. Any functions, invitations, I'm there to protect the governor."

Cruz has been a police officer with DPS for 23 years now.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NMC employee tests positive, college facilities closed

An employee of the Northern Marinas College has tested positive for COVID-19, resulting in the closure of college facilities today, Nov. 24, for deep cleaning and college employees will transition to teleworking also starting today.

All face-to-face and hybrid classes and student support services will be migrated online from Nov. 24, 2021, through Nov. 27, 2021.

According to a mass email message yesterday from NMC president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, he said contact tracing activities are being conducted to determine the extent of the outbreak. Other safety protocols are being carried out by NMC's facilities team and other departments at the college.

"As this is an evolving situation, please stay informed through official sources," he added. "While all of these preventive measures are occurring, we encourage you to remain calm but vigilant in staying informed and carrying out preventive measures."

If you are concerned that you may have come in contact with someone who tested positive, you can contact the COVID-19 Task Force Contact Tracing Team Tip Lines at (670) 287-2274 or (670) 286-1729. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

CGC certifies nine adults in Mental Health First Aid

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Community Guidance Center certified nine additional individuals on Oct. 27, 2021, in Adult Mental Health First Aid.

The participating agencies included the CNMI Superior Court's Office of Adult Probation and the CNMI Substance Abuse, Addictions & Rehabilitation Program.

The groundbreaking skills-based course teaches participants the tools to identify, understand, and respond to someone who might be struggling with a mental health or substance use challenge, and connect them with appropriate support and resources when necessary.

Friends and family members may find it hard to know when and how to step in, and as a result, those in need of mental health services often do not receive care until much later. But just as CPR helps those without medical training assist an individual having a heart attack, Mental Health First Aid prepares participants to interact with a person experiencing a mental health crisis.

Led by CGC's Kimberly Seman Tudela and Lorielyn Duenas Lacay, Mental Health First Aiders learned the MHFA five-step action plan that guides them through the process of reaching out and offering appropriate support, which helps break down barriers and stigma in order to better support one another.

The CGC has certified a total of 1,168 individuals in the CNMI, Palau, and Guam in either the MHFA youth curriculum, adult curriculum, or both.

For more information on MHFA, visit https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org. For contact information and to request for the CGC's MHFA training, visit https://chcc.gov.mp/communitysupporttraining.php. ***(PR)***

Representatives of the CNMI Superior Court's Office of Adult Probation and the CNMI Substance Abuse, Addictions & Rehabilitation Program participate in Adult Mental Health First Aid training. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GOAL

From Page 1

and it is concerning for all of us as well...so we are really urging individuals who have not gotten vaccinated to get vaccinated. ...The message that we're trying to convey today is that COVID is definitely here. We have these cases that we're trying to contain, and [containment] will be our goal moving forward," said Muña.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s COVID-19 vaccination site at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center will be open this week except on Thursday, which is Thanksgiving Day. The site will be open on Friday and Saturday. On a normal week, the site is open from Monday to Saturday, from 8am to 4pm. Registering for vaccination can be done on vaccinatecnmi.com or over the phone at 670-682-SHOT (7468).

Muña said that vaccination outreaches to get target populations vaccinated are in the works. "There is going to be some outreach that we're working [on] with the vaccination team to try to bring the vaccinations to them, and we're [doing that] so that we can get more people vaccinated," she said.

Muña also asked the community to continue practicing the "3 W's": wash your hands, watch your distance, and wear a face covering. Muña reiterated that the high number of unvaccinated individuals in the CNMI remains a concern and that she and CHCC want to further increase the CNMI's immunity against COVID-19, in workplaces in particular, to get people back to work.

"We want to contain [COVID-19] and have more immunity for our population. …We want to see [more people] vaccinated in a workplace so that people can continue their work and not [be distracted by business closures] because someone has been detected as positive," she said.

Muña expressed gratitude to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, governor's authorized representative Patrick Guerrero, the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and its chairman, Warren F. Villagomez, for their work and support in the CNMI's efforts against COVID-19. She added that the CNMI has been getting "good support" so far from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency as well.

Muña said there will be more vaccine outreaches and expansions to community-based testing are in the works. She said that now is the perfect time to further expand CBT as the new travel protocols implemented since Nov. 19 allow the CNMI's health leaders to place more focus on community testing.

"Because of the new [arrival protocols], we are able to expand even further. We're moving forward with...containing the situation right now," she said.

In an email yesterday, CHCC public information officer Guillermo Lifoifoi said that CHCC is "here to treat those who are COVID-19 positive" and asked those with COVID-19-related symptoms to call CHCC's Tele-Triage line at 670-233-2067 or to get checked by their primary health care provider. Lifoifoi added that CHCC's contact tracing team will call you if you are identified as a high-risk contact of a known positive case.

KARA

From Page 1

treatment soon after was first diagnosed with cancer in 2012.

Mailman said they're going to have a public viewing Wednesday next week, at 9am at the Borja Funeral Home for an hour before the cremation.

Mailman said that Kara was instrumental in the development of the law of the CNMI.

Mailman said he and Kara arrived together on Saipan on Feb. 17, 1989, where she worked as counsel for the CNMI House of Representatives. After a while, he said, Kara became the chief legal counsel for the CNMI Legislature, a position that she held for nine and a half years.

Kara then served as acting attorney general. She became counsel for then-governor Pedro P. Tenorio in the latter's third and last term.

Kara also served as counsel for then-lieutenant governor Diego Benavente, as an administrative hearing officer for the CNMI Department of Labor, and also as an administrative hearing officer for the CNMI Retirement Fund.

Kara and Mailman's law firm is a known expert in immigration matters and the couple periodically wrote a column for *Saipan Tribune* on immigration issues.

At a naturalization ceremony in August 2014 at the U.S. District Court for the NMI, Kara served as a guest speaker during which she shared her remarkable immigrant story that landed her in New York as a political refugee at age 11 when she and her family escaped to the West from Hungary.

Kara spent her childhood in Hungary, a small country in central Europe. At that time, during the Cold war, Hungary was under the rule of the Soviet Union.

Kara became a U.S. citizen at 18.

Janet H. King said yesterday that Kara provided her some guidance and inspiration as a young lawyer.

King said she will always remember Kara for her brilliant legal mind, and her devotion to her family and her service to the Commonwealth.

"My condolences to Bruce and the family on Maya Kara's passing," she said.

98

From Page 1

During a virtual news briefing yesterday hosted by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, it was learned that of the 98 newest cases, 82 individuals were identified through community-based testing, 14 through contact tracing, and two through COVID-19 testing at the Commonwealth Health Center emergency room.

Stephanie Kern-Allely, who is a regional communicable disease epidemiologist for the Pacific Island Health Officers Association, said that there are still zero cases of severe COVID-19 so far, and again credited the CNMI's high vaccination rate, which reduces the risk of severe disease.

As for the vaccination statuses and any reported COVID-19 symptoms experienced by the new cases so far, Kern-Allely said all cases are under investigation and that this information will be shared later.

Kern-Allely added that the CNMI has ample COVID-19 treatment options, and that monoclonal antibodies treatment is readily available. "[We] are actively assessing cases for eligibility and administering [treatment] to continue to reduce the risk of severe disease and hospitalizations," she said.

Kern-Allely further reported that of the 82 identified through CBT, 63 individuals were part of an emerging cluster with COVID-19 transmission origins linked to a large congregated living facility. The remaining 19 individuals are deemed unlinked to known clusters for now.

Later into the briefing, Kern-Allely mentioned that one of the two original clusters that combined for the first 21 community cases since Oct. 28 remains active.

She said the contact tracing team continues to identify additional contacts and isolate these contacts. Kern-Allely added that the contact tracing team works around the clock and that the team's efforts thus far have been boosted by working closely with workplaces, employers, and community groups to encourage individuals to register for and take part in COVID-19 testing.

With Thanksgiving nearing, Kern-Allely said that getting vaccinated remains the best protection against COVID-19. For individuals who have not gotten a dose of a vaccine, Kern-Allely advises doing so, and for those eligible, she advises getting a booster dose. Kern-Allely also advised holding smaller gatherings this Thanksgiving, and holding gatherings outdoors.

Kern-Allely said that immunity against COVID-19 in fully vaccinated individuals wanes over time, and as such advised getting booster shots. She also mentioned that booster shots were recently made available to all individuals aged 18 and older.

Also attending the news briefing was CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muña, Governor's COVID-19 Task Force chairman Warren F. Villagomez, and the governor's authorized representative Patrick Guerrero.

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'Vaxx rates for PSS staff, students are pretty high'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System's vaccination rates for staff and students alike in the CNMI are pretty high, according to Dr. Bonnie Pangelinan, who is the PSS associate commissioner for Student and Support Services.

Pangelinan

In her presentation before the House of Representatives Committee on Education on Monday about PSS' plan to resume in-person classes, Pangelinan said that vaccination is only the first phase of ensuring that the school campuses are safe from COVID-19.

As for staff vaccination rates, Pangelinan said the vaccination rates in all elementary schools are at least 81% and above. In secondary schools, they're also at 81% vaccination rates or above, with some schools such as Dr. Rita H. Inos High School, Tinian High School, and Saipan Southern High School at 100%, she added.

Pangelinan said the way that they used to determine whether or not secondary schools are going to resume in-person classes was different compared to elementary schools.

In elementary schools, they only measured the rates of vaccination for the staff and teachers and if it is at 80%, they open elementary schools for full face-to-face learning, she said.

In secondary schools, because the eligible age for vaccination was from 12 to 17, they had to measure both staff and student vaccination rates, Pangelinan said.

So as it stands, she said, they only have three secondary schools that are open: Tinian Junior Senior High School, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School, and Marianas High School.

Pangelinan said Saipan Southern High School is currently at 77% and it is forecasted to be at 81% as soon as a handful of students get their second doses.

Staffler

She said they are tracking and monitoring the vaccination rates in the secondary schools very closely.

Now that the eligible age for vaccination was lowered to the age range of 5 to 11 years old, Pangelinan said they have started vaccination campaigns on all campuses.

To date, she said, they have had 66 students at Koblerville Elementary School who've been vaccinated, 68 at San Vicente Elementary School, and 48 students at Tinian Elementary School. She said vaccination for Oleai Elementary School was set for yesterday.

Last Nov. 12, the Board of Education met and extended the closures of in-person classes to Nov. 29. The in-person classes were supposed to resume last Nov. 15.

Pangelinan said they sent out follow up surveys last week to parents, teachers, and staff and instituted online learning, and also provided meals through grab-and-go in several locations.

She said they then we worked with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. to sustain ongoing vaccination efforts in all school campuses.

Pangelinan said that during the school-based screening last Oct. 28, there were some COVID-19 case that were discovered in school campuses. She said the first thing they did was work with the COVID-19 Task Force to determine whether or not they need to close one school, a classroom, a cluster, or all schools.

Immediately afterwards, Pangelinan said, they provided deep sanitizing to other school campuses, and instituted communication with PSS stakeholders.

This time, the associate commissioner said, they had a governor's directive to close all public and private schools on all three islands as well as the Northern Marianas College.

"We did deep sanitizing in our school campuses and then we let out a parent survey to collect feedback from our families on whether or not they felt safe on our school campuses," Pangelinan said.

The committee is chaired by Rep. Leila C. Staffler (D-Saipan).

PUBLIC NOTICE

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) is considering a request for Federal assistance from 500 Sails to construct a Cultural Maritime Training Center in Lower Base, Saipan. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), EDA is conducting an assessment of the potential of the proposed project to affect the environment and/or historic properties.

The Cultural Maritime Training Center construction project is located in Lower Base, Saipan, specifically, Lot No. 252 E 01, adjacent the Department of Public Lands & Natural Resources Bldg. Project information is available for review at the 500 Sails office or by contacting Tel. No. (670) 323-7245.

If you have any information regarding potential impacts on environmental resources or historic properties associated with this project, please provide it in writing to:

Rowena Defato
EDA Regional Environmental Officer
rdefato@eda.gov or call 206-220-7703

Comments must be received by the EDA Regional Environmental Officer by 5:00 p.m., December 8, 2021.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

EDWARD FRANK CABRERA
Petitioner,
vs.
HUANG XIAOMEI
Respondent.

FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 21-0439

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 8012 SVRB Saipan CNMI 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by default may be taken against you for releif in the Complaint.

Dated this 20th day of October, 2021.

/s/
CLERK OF COURT

Torres urges JGO Committee to respect employees' testimony

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres said Friday the House of Representatives Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee that is investigating his expenditure of public funds should respect the testimony of government employees as he has not coerced anyone about their testimony.

Speaking at a radio press briefing, Torres said he and his wife are not the kind of people who would pressure anyone in their testimony.

"All of you guys know me. I don't go around putting pressure, telling anyone to do this otherwise they're gone," said Torres when asked to comment about Police Sgt. Flora Aguon's testimony before the JGO.

The committee, which is controlled by Democratic representatives, is investigating Torres, who is a Republican.

Torres

As of press time, *Saipan Tribune* was still waiting for comments from JGO chair Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan).

Aguon, who was formerly assigned as protective security detail for first lady Diann Tudela Torres, testified Thursday, among other things, that she was never asked to assist with the personal shopping of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and first lady Diann Torres and that the first couple had attended many meetings in Washington D.C., Montana, and Guam.

She said she was never asked to "take care" of the Torres couple's children and family members, that no one has approached her to sign a nondisclosure agreement, and no one pressured her testimony.

Torres said that putting pressure on anyone is not how he and his wife were raised.

Torres said JGO Committee members may disagree with some of his actions, but they're absolutely not illegal.

He said all of these government employees, whether it's Aguon, a police captain, or other employees, have all worked hard yet are being dragged through the hearing by the JGO.

The governor said if some JGO members don't like the testimony, they would say "I heard this and heard that."

"Why bring them in if you are not going to listen and believe a word they say?" Torres asked.

During the testimony of Aguon last Thursday, Rep. Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan) stated that whenever it comes to testifying, they've heard that there has been some pressure at the Department of Public Safety. At one point, he asked Aguon: "Have you ever been pressured or anything with regard to your testimony here today?" She replied, "No, sir."

Torres said Aguon is a hard-working individual and that he thanked for her service and for always being there. Torres said many of these protective service detail personnel also do volunteer work to help, but yet are being told or being said something else by the JGO Committee members themselves.

"So I ask the JGO to respect these individuals, respect the answers that is coming from them," said the governor as he reiterated that no one is being pressured and that he never spoke to Aguon or anyone that has testified. "We have hard-working individuals. Respect them and believe their answers because it's coming from them," Torres said.

The Marianas
Saipan | Tinian | Rota
MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
Christmas in the Marianas
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXI, Issue No. 233

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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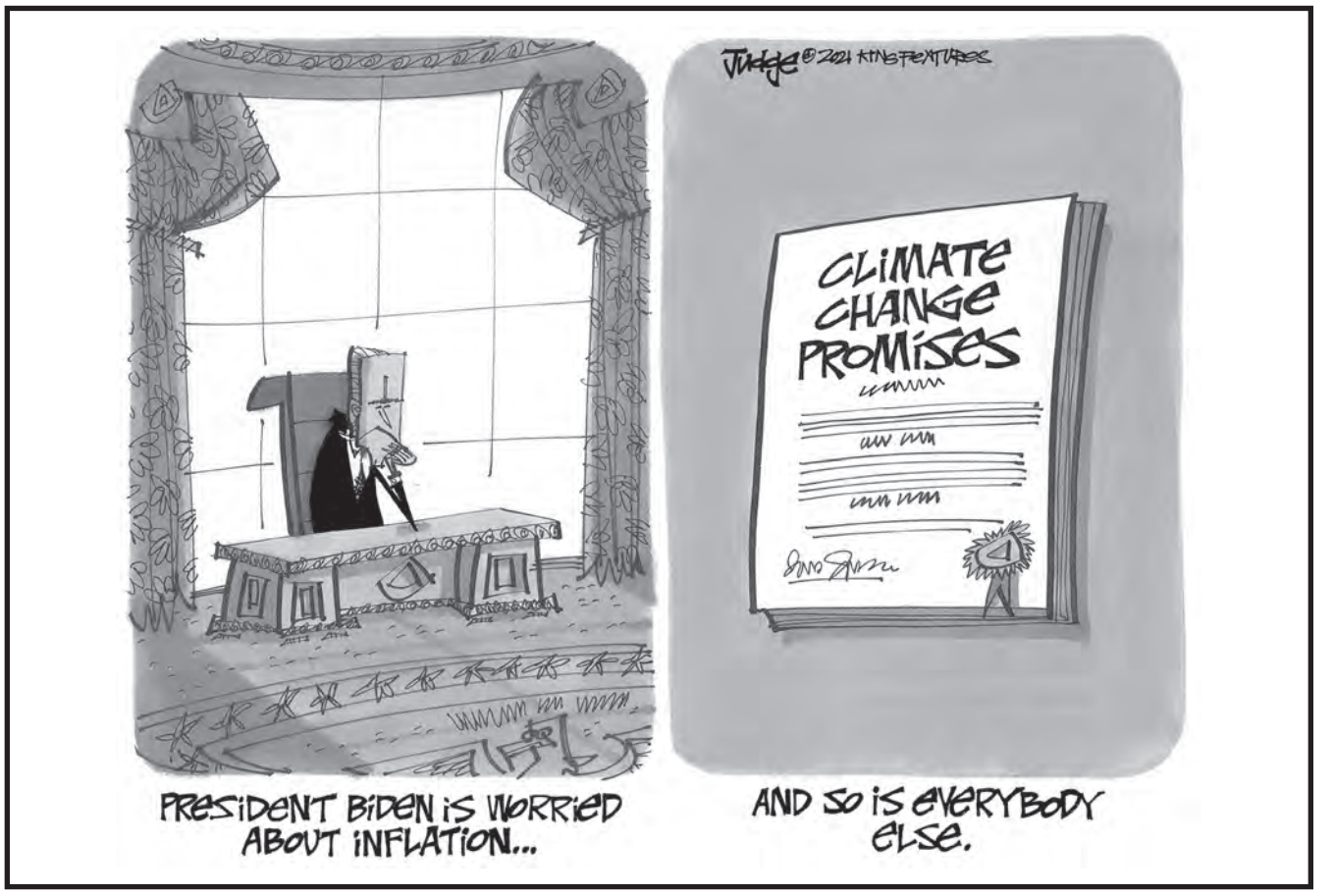

A must-see video for House GOP leaders

By MARTIN SCHRAM
Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.

This past Wednesday afternoon, we got perhaps the most disappointing answer yet to a question that I have been asking myself for most of my journalistic career.

It happened as we watched the House's dueling speeches and censure of the unrepentant Rep. Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., for having tweeted an anime video of himself as a cartoonish superhero fatally stabbing Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., and swinging two swords at President Joe Biden.

Yet, watching that angry ritual, I found myself thinking back to a remarkable and uplifting moment in that same chamber just four years earlier. It occurred as a result of a tragically real congressional assassination attempt. But it left us with a very different perception of how House Republican leaders used to see their responsibility as coinciding with old-fashioned American patriotism.

FLASHBACK—to 10:55 AM on Sept. 28, 2017: As aides open the massive House chamber door, more than 400 representatives jump to their feet and begin clapping and cheering as one. You can't tell the Democrats from the Republicans. A solidly built man enters, walking very slowly but surely, using two canes for support, now that he has learned to walk again. Rep. Steve Scalise, R-La., who was then House Majority Whip, is returning to work. More than three months earlier, he was horribly wounded by a Trump-hating assassin who sprayed bullets randomly at Republicans at a baseball field, as they practiced for their annual game with the Democrats. At the microphone, Scalise speaks of "the outpouring of love from you, my colleagues, both Republican and Democrat." Congress is famous for its political battle, he says, "but ultimately we come together. … It's so important that as we have those political battles, we don't make them personal."

FAST-FORWARD—to this past week. The scene we all saw on our news screens was nothing like that moment four years ago that was filled with happy hearts, moist eyes and not a trace of red or blue politics. What we saw and felt this past week was the reality of Congress 2021—a place where hearts are cold and eyes are glaring. Especially on the Republican side, where a Rep. Gosar just did everything his party's now Minority Whip seemed to abhor on that 2017 day.

There's a reason that I'm focusing on this topic today. I have ended up covering most of the shattering assassinations and near misses of the last half century:

■ 1968: the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy.

■ 1972: the paralyzing near assassination of George Wallace.

■ 1975: two failed assassinations of Gerald Ford; a frightening faux assassination when a man pointed a blank-shooting starter's pistol at Ronald Reagan.

■ 1981: the assassination attempt that almost killed Reagan and

See GOP on Next Page

Our oldest president just turned 79. He might have something to learn from the second-oldest

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times. *Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com.*

Joe Biden turned 79 last week. He's beginning to look his age.

The president walks a little more stiffly now. His diction, once clear, sometimes sounds a little blurry. His syntax has always been ragged; that hasn't changed.

Like most of us, he gets tired at the end of a long day. At the U.N. climate summit in Scotland, he took his seat in the conference hall to hear the opening speeches and promptly appeared to doze off.

None of this appears to be clearly affecting his job. Last week he signed a $1 trillion infrastructure bill, a feat his predecessor was unable to perform at the comparatively young age of 70. He's in the middle of negotiations for the Senate version of his big social spending bill; if it passes, he'll deserve much of the credit.

There's no evidence that he's suffering from senile dementia, no matter how often ghoulish critics stitch together video clips of his gaffes. They seem to have forgotten that Biden has generated gaffes for half a century.

And yet the president's age still creates a political burden—one he doesn't need at a time when many voters have turned sour on him.

Voters, especially elderly ones who notice their own faculties eroding, worry that someone as old as Biden won't be able to do the job. He often faced that question when he began his third campaign for president in 2019. He often responded by challenging the questioners, including an 83-year-old Iowa farmer, to pushup contests.

Unlike a younger president, he has to demonstrate his continued competence every month. Unfair? Not really; the people he works for are entitled to ask.

And this is one place where Biden's White House hasn't served him especially well.

The president's schedule on his six-day trip across Europe was brutal, with long days, meetings with dozens of other leaders, plus phone calls to Washington to corral congressional votes for his spending bills.

All important priorities—but one result was a picture of an exhausted president that went viral.

In a different context, the incident might have been trivial. CNN chivalrously found old footage of President Reagan dozing off during a meeting with the pope, which was arguably worse.

For a president whose last electoral opponent dubbed him "sleepy Joe Biden," it wasn't smart to appear in public as a real-life sleepy Joe Biden. If he needed to sit in that conference hall, he should have had an aide by his side ready to kick him under the table.

Despite his age and his quirks, Biden is undeniably good at many kinds of public events. He can deliver set-piece speeches well, especially when he restrains his urge to wander from the text.

He's good at debates, town halls and news conferences, at least when he's well-rested and well-prepared. In 2020, he won his only face-to-face debate with Donald Trump hands down.

At a CNN town hall last month, he delivered a solid sales pitch for his spending bills, although his syntax was sometimes tangled. He mangled his descriptions of policies on Taiwan and National Guard troops as truck drivers in ports; that was vintage Biden.

But he's not as good off the cuff, or when he's challenged with a question he views as hostile. And, as we saw in Europe, he's not good when he's tired.

This is one instance where Biden and his staff can learn a lesson from a successful Republican predecessor.

Reagan faced the age question during his reelection campaign in 1984, when he was only 73. In his debate against Democrat Walter F. Mondale, he dispelled the issue with a quip: "I will not make age an issue in this campaign. I am not going to exploit, for political purposes, my opponent's youth and inexperience."

More important, Reagan's wife, Nancy, and his closest aide, Michael Deaver, imposed iron discipline on his schedule to ensure that when he was onstage, he always looked his best.

We now know that Reagan was contending with early stages of Alzheimer's disease by the end of his presidency, but he found ways to compensate for his weaknesses. His actor's discipline and his willingness to rely on strong aides enabled him to finish two terms strongly and win credit for bringing the Cold War near an end.

The times are different now, and so is the president.

Biden, who has long been known for a stubborn streak, doesn't take stage directions as willingly as Reagan did.

"One thing I learned quickly," a former aide told me. "You don't tell Joe Biden what to say."

But if he wants to complete his ambitious agenda—FDR-size domestic programs, a revamped foreign policy, and maybe even a reelection campaign when he'll be almost 82—it's a practice he might consider learning.

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Does Biden's vaccination mandate actually need to be enforced?

By SHELDON H. JACOBSON
Chicago Tribune

Sheldon H. Jacobson is professor of computer science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

In September, President Joe Biden announced a COVID-19 vaccination mandate that affects 100 million workers across the public and private sectors. The mandate requires all federal employees and federal contractors to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. It also applies to private sector companies with at least 100 employees. For this latter group, exemptions are possible, which then require weekly testing in lieu of vaccination.

The response to the mandate has mostly fallen along political lines.

Many welcomed the mandate, including the Business Roundtable and the National Association of Manufacturers, as the pathway to an end to the pandemic, providing community protection for all. These organizations consider vaccination as good business policy to keep the economy moving and growing, and people employed.

Others have been outraged, believing that the government has overstepped their authority to require a vaccine that they believe is unnecessary, and perhaps even unsafe. Several states, all with Republican governors, are pushing back on the mandate through executive orders or bills.

A Louisiana-based federal appeals court issued a stay, deeming that the mandate has "grave statutory and constitutional issues," which means that it may need to reach the Supreme Court to be enforced. Given the legal, ethical, and practical implementation issues raised surrounding the mandate, the administration continues to push the compliance deadline date further into the future; it's now set for Jan. 4.

As the controversy surrounding the mandate continues to escalate, the constantly evolving situation raises the question: Will a final date for compliance and enforcement ever be set? Does it need to be?

The purpose of the mandate was to encourage vaccination. By this measure, it has already succeeded in doing this, even if it is never enforced.

Numerous companies across multiple sectors, including Walgreens, Walmart, Google and Delta Air Lines, all proactively set vaccination deadlines for their employees. As a result, the share of the adult population now fully vaccinated exceeds 70%. It is reasonable that this would not have occurred without the private sector responding to the vaccine mandate long before it was required to go into effect.

Supply chain disruptions and the approaching holiday shopping season may also have contributed to the most recent mandate delay. This will serve to remove any additional barriers for retail and e-commerce outlets to secure ample inventory, as well as fill staffing needs. However, with each passing week, hundreds of thousands of people are receiving the vaccines, even without the mandate enforced.

What the Biden administration has learned is that the threat of a mandate is as effective as the mandate itself.

Companies that receive federal funds could not risk losing them by not complying with the mandate. Every large company had to plan for the possibility of a mandate deadline, or risk significant financial losses and penalties.

Does this mean that the mandate can quietly drift away?

The answer is no.

With booster shots now recommended, and likely periodically needed for the foreseeable future to keep people protected, a veiled threat of a vaccination mandate may not be sufficient to keep people up-to-date on their vaccination status. This is particularly true for people who were uncertain about the vaccines, but still went ahead and were vaccinated.

As the virus transitions from pandemic to endemic, people will require the best available protections, and the vaccines continue to offer it at this time. With new treatments under development, the pathway to a safe society for all lay before us. However, it requires everyone's cooperation, working together toward a common goal.

Despite all the challenges and criticisms levied, Biden's announcement of a vaccine mandate achieved a desired objective. For it to continue to be effective, efforts must continue to enact and enforce it, or we risk moving backward toward greater personal risk for all. Unfortunately, the legal issues will make it exceedingly difficult for the mandate to ever be enforced.

With the light at the end of the tunnel waning and waxing, yet within sight, it would be unfortunate to lose ground against the virus and slip backward.

In an ideal world, mandates would be unnecessary. In the real world, they save lives and livelihoods, sometimes even if they never are enforced.

A week of chasing justice in 2 Americas

By LZ GRANDERSON
Los Angeles Times

LZ Granderson is an Op-Ed columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

During weeks like last week, the pursuit of justice feels more like chasing clouds blindfolded.

Friday's "not guilty" verdict in the Kyle Rittenhouse trial wasn't altogether surprising—especially after Judge Bruce Schroeder said he wouldn't allow the people Rittenhouse shot and killed to be called victims. But it still felt like a gut punch knowing the prosecution wasn't allowed to show a video in which Rittenhouse reportedly said he wish he had a gun so he could shoot people two weeks before he went out and shot people.

I can't help but juxtapose the outcome in the Rittenhouse case to that of the high-profile case of Julius Jones in Oklahoma.

On Thursday, Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt commuted Jones' death sentence to life imprisonment without possibility of parole—but with the condition that he would never be eligible to apply for or be considered for a commutation, pardon or parole for the rest of his life. This despite the state's Pardon and Parole Board recommending clemency with the possibility of the parole—before Stitt's decision—because of serious doubts about the evidence against Jones.

I'm grateful Jones is alive, but it's hard to see the governor's order as just.

Also last week, Khalil Islam and Muhammad A. Aziz, two of the three men convicted for the 1965 assassination of Malcolm X, were exonerated. As The New York Times noted, "A 22-month investigation conducted jointly by the Manhattan district attorney's office and lawyers for the two men found that prosecutors and two of the nation's premier law enforcement agencies—the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the New York Police Department—had withheld key evidence that, had it been turned over, would likely have led to the men's acquittal."

Yes, their convictions have now been thrown out, but who will be held accountable for their wrongful incarceration?

Where is justice for Malcolm X?

Where is the justice for Islam, who died in 2009, and Aziz, who after spending decades in prison for a crime they didn't commit, had to see themselves portrayed as murderers in books, television and film? David Shanies, an attorney who teamed up with the Innocence Project to represent Aziz and the Islam family, said "the NYPD and FBI covered up a tremendous amount of evidence of their innocence, hiding it even from the District Attorney."

And who will be held accountable for that?

Seems like no one.

Last week the city of Aurora, Colorado, agreed to pay the family of Elijah McClain $15 million to settle a civil rights lawsuit filed over his death by police. It is said to be the largest police settlement in its state's history. The 23-year-old unarmed McClain was stopped by police as he walked down the street.

"I have a right to stop you because you're being suspicious," an officer can be heard saying on the bodycam video. The slight, 143-pound McClain was placed in a chokehold. He passed out. Paramedics injected him with 500 milligrams of ketamine, an amount appropriate for someone north of 200 pounds. He fell into a coma. He was pronounced dead at the hospital.

This was all in August 2019. Only in September, two years after McClain's death, were two police officers, a former officer and two paramedics charged with counts of manslaughter and negligent homicide. Had it not been for weeks of protests following the murder of George Floyd in 2020, charges may not have been brought.

Is this how justice is supposed to work?

Or is the $15 million settlement acknowledgment that justice doesn't work for everyone?

Because in a week in which several high-profile cases all had various forms of conclusions, the only person who appears able to go on and live a full life is the 18-year-old who killed two people.

Hours after the verdict, I received a fundraising email blast from "Free Kyle USA" that read, in part, "please, take all that positive energy I know you're feeling and make an urgent donation to help us close this very ugly chapter in our lives."

I'm sure from Rittenhouse's perspective, this was an ugly chapter. However, for Black people who saw the photo of him earlier this year in a bar wearing a T-shirt that said "Free as F---," as he posed for photos with members of the Proud Boys, flashing a "white power" sign, this is more than a chapter.

Yes, these are different cases with different judges and circumstances. Still, I can't shake the feeling that they're all part of the same story about two Americas.

GOP

From Page 8

severely wounded my friend and his press secretary, Jim Brady.

I came away from chronicling all of that wondering just what really motivated those warped minds to commit their godawful crimes. Were they triggered by some thoughtless thing said or done by someone they admire?

And that brings me back to the warped mind of Paul Gosar. Could his heinous conduct have twisted the easily manipulated mind of a future assassin? And is there a Republican House leader who really cares enough about that to have done something to prevent it?

Well it wasn't the Republicans' leader-lite Wannabe Speaker, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy. On Wednesday, McCarthy mainly was about vowing to rain retribution down on key Democrats if Republicans gain control of the House.

The last time a representative was censured, a decade ago, most Democrats joined in censuring one of their most popular colleagues, Rep. Charlie Rangel, D-N.Y. Because it was the right thing to do. On Wednesday, all but two Republicans voted against censuring Gosar.

And that brings us back to Scalise. The leader I respected when he grasped all the core principles in 2017 unfortunately chose to be morally MIA on Wednesday. In 2017, Scalise told the House that world leaders who had called him after the attempted assassinations "saw this as an attack on the institution of the United States Congress and our government."

The GOP House whip who gave Gosar a pass on Wednesday got his thank-you the next day: Gosar retweeted the violent video anime in which he kills the House liberal he most loves to hate—and swings swords aimed at killing America's president.

But if Scalise is up for a video, I have a far more worthwhile alternative:

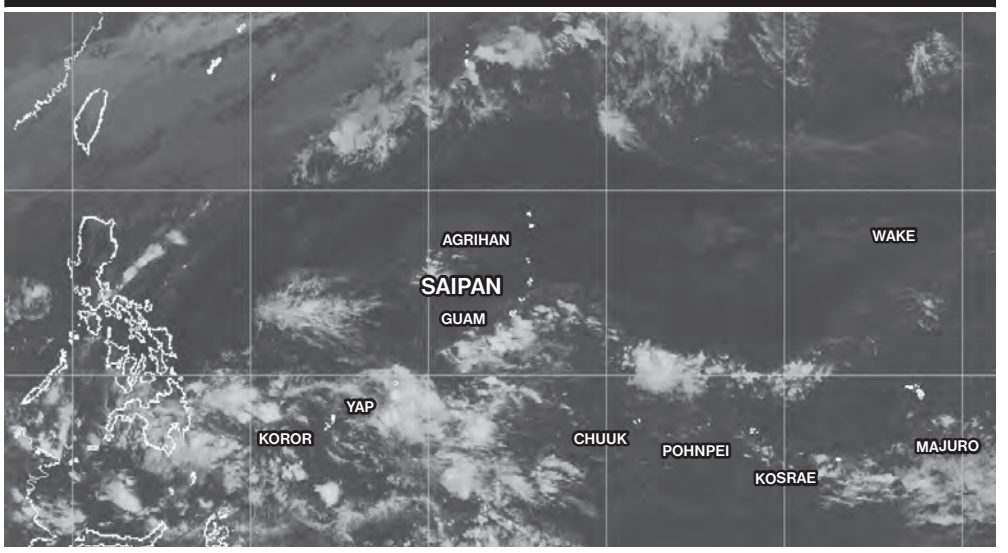
Check out a speech that was given by a once-principled and very grateful House leader, right after he walked into the House chamber at 10:55 a.m. on Sept. 28, 2017, and began his second chance at life and service.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
85º / 77º	87º / 78º	87º / 78º	87º / 78º	85º / 76º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:31 AM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows scattered showers to the southeast and east of Guam and Rota. These have been approaching and will continue to do so. Satellite shows a line of similar storms about 1000 miles to the east. The Ipan buoy reveals combined seas of 5 to 7 feet, composed of east trade-wind waves and swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:23 AM	5:43 PM
Thursday	6:23 AM	5:43 PM
Friday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	10:12 AM	9:37 PM
Thursday	-	10:59 AM	10:30 PM
Friday	-	11:44 AM	11:23 PM
Saturday	-	12:26 PM	-
Sunday	12:15 AM	1:06 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	72° / 59°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	45° / 23°
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	64° / 61°
Honolulu	Windy	81° / 71°
London	Partly Cloudy	54° / 45°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	91° / 63°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	91° / 66°
Miami	Thunderstorms	80° / 69°
New York	Mostly Sunny	45° / 35°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	54° / 43°
Paris	Showers	57° / 46°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	55° / 34°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	63° / 52°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	64° / 41°
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	64° / 55°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	43° / 21°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	55° / 39°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	47° / 33°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
11:58 AM	Low Tide	1.59
5:23 PM	High Tide	1.20
4:31 PM	Low Tide	1.17
8:40 PM	High Tide	1.48

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 12, 2021

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:20am	8:05am	2, 4, 6
UA117	9:50am	10:35am	1, 3, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:20am	9:50pm	2, 4, 6 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

7C3406	3:10PM	6:55PM	6
TW9308	3:20PM	8:00PM	4, 5
OZ6243	4:00PM	7:40PM	6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA116	5:30am	6:16am	2, 4, 6
UA174	8:00am	8:46am	1, 3, 5, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	2, 5
UA184	10:55pm	4:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	10:40pm	6:16am+1	5 via Guam
UA184/174	10:40pm	8:46am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	6:16am+1	1, 3 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:46am+1	4, 6, 7 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3405	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
OZ6233	9:00AM	2:30PM	6
TW9307	10:00AM	2:20PM	4, 5

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

NEW

XO MARKET

New XO MARKET expresses its heartfelt appreciation to all our valued customers for your continued patronage.

SALE DATE:
Nov. 24 - 30, 2021
OPEN FROM
6:30am - 12 midnight
Monday - Sunday
Tel: 670-235-9168
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

THANKSGIVING BLACK FRIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

SMOKED HAM $1.99/lbs

CHICKEN LEG QTR
$13.99/22 lbs $18.99/33 lbs

WHOLE CHICKEN
$43.99/30Lbs

TURKEY $1.89/lbs

Baby Spareribs
$20.99/10 lbs

Black Label
$2.39

SPAM All Flavor
$2.99

Diamond G Rice 50 lbs
$31.99

Vega Shrimp
$5.99/Pack

Pork Spareribs
$24.99/20 lbs

Crawfish
$12.99/kg

Snow Crab Leg
$7.99/lb

Dungeon Crab
$10.99/lb

AVAILABLE

Ground Beef Patties
$8.99
/3 lbs

Ground Beef
$3.49/1 lb
$5.99/2 lb

Ground Beef
$16.99/5 lbs

XL Egg
$1.99/ doz

Large Loose Egg
$3.99

Bar S Hotdog
$1.39

CHORIZOS AVAILABLE

Steamed Roll/ Green Onion Roll
$1.99 /pack

Bar S Bacon
$4.99

Big Buy Bacon
$2.99

Chicken Mid Wing
$18.99/5 lbs

Mussels Half Shell
$6.99/2 lbs

Golden Pomfret
$2.99/lb

Parrot Fish
$2.49/lb

300-500g $1.09/lb
500g Up $1.19/lb
Clean Tilapia $1.49/lb

Milk Fish
$1.69/lbs

Yellow Croaker
$4.99 /2 lbs

Live Frozen White Prawns
$11.99/kg

Bar S Hotlinks
$3.99 /24 oz

Assorted Fish Balls
$2.99/ pack

Half Shell Scallop
$8.99 /kg

Black Tiger Nobashi
$3.99
/pack

All Flavor $5.99/pack

All Flavor $4.99/pack

21/25 $3.99/lb
16/20 $4.50/lb
13/15 $4.99/lb

Beauty Shrimp
$8.99/kg

Yellow Clam
$2.99
/kg

Blue Berries
$3.99
/pack

Fish Balls (All Flavor)
$3.49
/pack

Nong Shim Bowl Noodle
$7.99
12 pcs

Spring Roll Shell
$1.69
/pack

Kam Yen Jan
$4.50
/pack

Mandarin
$7.99
/3 lbs

Persimmon
$5.50/pack

Frozen Durian
$3.99/lb

Korean Pear $15.99/3kg
$24.99/5kg

Mandarin $2.99/lb

NEW ARRIVAL
Sweet Melogold
$1.79/lb

Fresh Strawberries
$8.99
/pack

Steamed Mini Bun
$2.25
/pack

Wonton (All Kinds)
$5.99 /pack

Dishwashing Liquid
$2.50
/2ltr

Bounty Paper Towel
$13.99/6 Big Rolls

Highway Ham
$4.25
/16oz

Dawn Dishwashing Liquid
$9.99
/2.21 L

Bounty Paper Towel
$1.99/pc.

Butane gas
2.99/pack

WE WANT TO ASSURE EVERYONE THAT NEW X.O. MARKET IS A SAFE PLACE. YOU CAN DEFINITELY SHOP WITH CONFIDENCE.

Guerrero, An, Whang, and Han top Pacifica Art Contest

Four CNMI students—Maria Guerrero of Mount Carmel School, Byul An of Saipan Community School, Chia Hui Whang of Saipan International School, and Ashlynn Han of Brilliant Star Montessori—topped the 8th Annual Pacifica Art Contest of Pacifica Insurance Underwriters.

With a contest theme of "Stay Covid-19 free" this year, the contest drew a total of 177 entries from all categories which included traditional, digital and three dimensional. The digital and physical three-dimensional (3D) categories were newly added to the contest this year.

Guerrero won first place in the traditional category one, An won in the traditional category two, Whang won first place in the digital category, and Han won for the three dimensional category.

The company's president, Shirley Sablan, said this year's theme "resonates with all of us. The world has never been smaller than it is today, as we face this global pandemic together working in unison to put an end

Continued on Next Page

Maria Guerrero, a fifth-grade student from Mount Carmel School receives her $200 prize and certificate from Team Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ChiaHui Wang, a student at Saipan International School, receives her $200 prize and certificate from Team Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Byul An, a seventh-grade student from Saipan Community School, receives her $200 prize and certificate from Team Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ashlynn Han, a student at Brilliant Star Montessori, receives her $200 prize and certificate from Team Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NORTHERN MARIANAS PACIFIC MINI GAMES 2022

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

COMMUNICATIONS and MARKETING SUPERVISOR

Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022

Job Description:
Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee wishes to recruit a Communications and Marketing Supervisor. This individual will report directly to the CEO. You will need to build and maintain good relationships through your ability to deliver on time and quality products to Games Organizing Committees and other stakeholder groups such as Northern Marianas Sports Association (NMSA), Pacific Games Council (PGC), National and International Federations as well as commercial, media and community partners.

Duties and Responsibilities:
- Responsible for implementing and maintaining a robust strategic organizational public relations program.
- Responsible for assisting in brand management and content distribution strategies, advertising, partnership development, and managing overall execution of the communications and marketing goals.
- Continue to increase the visibility of the events to the larger community.
- Oversees digital and social media strategy, including the evolving digital market and contributes new ideas to enhance the organization's social presence.
- Leads assignments to support the strategic vision of NMPMG 2022.
- Oversees the creation of marketing materials including managing graphic design projects to completion and acts as brand liaison to NMPMG to ensure consistent brand voice, vision, and aesthetic are achieved.
- Maintain the brand integrity of the Games. Ensure all products and offerings conform to brand identity;
- Ensure that all materials are developed and distributed according to an appropriate timeline as well as being consistent and engaging.
- Other assigned duties.

Essential Qualities
- Relevant work experience in communications and marketing, required.
- Understanding of website content management systems, required.
- Print and online advertising experience.
- Experience executing social media outreach to targeted audience segments.
- Exceptional written, oral, proofreading, branding, design oversight, interpersonal and presentation skill set.
- Strong organizational and project management skills that reflect ability to perform and prioritize multiple tasks seamlessly with excellent attention to detail.
- Ability to take initiative and manage projects assigned through completion with minimal supervision.
- Ability to work effectively, independently and as a highly resourceful team player under pressure and within deadlines.
- Ability to work creatively and with flexibility in a fast-paced environment while maintaining high work standards.

Hours of Work:
This is a full-time position (36 hours weekly) with an occasional requirement to work outside of normal office hours.

Salary: $4000.00 per month (January 2022 – July 2022)

Language: Fluency in English; Chamorro and or Carolinian an advantage

How to Apply: If you meet the above requirement and are interested in the position, please send a resume or curriculum vitae along with a cover letter to the following postal or email address:

Postal Mail: Communications and Marketing Supervisor NMPMG2022 Application
P.O. Box 502476
Saipan, MP 96950

Email: vicente.babauta@gmail.com or info.northernmarianas2022@gmail.com

All applications must be received no later than 5:00 pm, December 3, 2021

Contact Person: Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, GOC Chairman Marco Peter
Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta

NORTHERN MARIANAS PACIFIC MINI GAMES 2022

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022

Job Description:
The Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee wishes to recruit an Administrative Assistant to be responsible for the administrative support of the NMPMG 2022. The Administrative Assistant will report directly to the NMPMG 2022 CEO. This position is an entry level role to support the sports industry management or other talent and experience in sports administration. The incumbent will need to build and maintain good relationship through his/her ability to deliver on time and quality products to the Games Organizing Committee, other stakeholder groups such as the Northern Marianas Sports Association (NMSA), Pacific Games Council (PGC), National and International Federations.

Duties and Responsibilities:
Administrative Assistant must have experience in organizational administration that will serve games organizing committee (GOC)
- First point of contact to provide administrative support to the NMPMG 2022 events and Games Organizing Committee (GOC).
- Arrange logistics and detailed running sheets for NMPMG 2022 events in conjunction with other staff and stakeholders.
- Monitor NMPMG 2022 digital platforms to ensure accuracy and currency of information.
- Ensure effective management of electronic files, database and other digital content.
- Support CEO in development and reporting framework for NMPMG 2022 events and activities.
- Conduct specific research tasks as required.
- Other assigned duties.

Essential Qualities:
- Demonstrate Project Management experience suitable to arranging meetings or small events; or have Project Management theory and how you would practically apply it in this setting.
- Computer literacy is essential including MS Office suite along with an aptitude in learning other specific industry or commercial software.
- Basic knowledge of sports principles of the nine sports events for NMPMG 2022.
- Understanding of the principles of how sports competition includes National and International Federations.
- Excellent time management and organizational ability.
- Ability to multitask and meet constant deadlines.
- Willingness to work long hours when necessary.

Personal Attributes:
- Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills with an ability to relate to a wide range of people from different age and cultural backgrounds.
- Must be capable of working within a small team or independently.
- Be proactive with the ability to solve problems, work under pressure and meet deadlines is necessary to succeed in this role.
- Must be reliable, have a good work ethic and be able to keep progressing even when it's still ambiguous.

Hours of Work:
This is a full-time position (36 hours weekly) with occasional work outside of normal work hours.

Salary: $12.00 per hour (January 2022 - July 2022)

Language: Fluency in English, Chamorro and or Carolinian an advantage.

How to Apply: If you meet the above requirement and are interested in the position, please send a resume or curriculum vitae along with a cover letter to the following postal or email address:

Postal Mail: Administrative Assistant NMPMG2022 Application
P.O. Box 502476
Saipan, MP 96950

Email: vicente.babauta@gmail.com or info.northernmarianas2022@gmail.com

All applications must be received no later than 5:00 pm, December 3, 2021

Contact Person: Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, GOC Chairman Marco Peter
Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta

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to this deadly virus. We are completely blown away by the artworks shared in this year's contest. You can feel the pain and the strength simultaneously expressed in every piece. We are extremely grateful to all artists and volunteers who had a hand in this."

The judges for this year's contest were:

■ Traditional Category judges: 2021 Miss Marianas Savannah Lynn Delos Santos, Kagman High School art teacher Yolani Camacho, and journalist/writer Ulysses Sabuco;

■ Digital and 3D judges: 2020 Miss Northern Marianas Earth Maria "Ria" Terlaje, Northern Marianas College marketing manager Raynard Travilla, and Saipan Music and Dance Studio choreographer Rhine Russell

The Pacifica Art Contest is a visual arts competition designed to nurture and support local talent and the arts. The contest has gathered over 2,000 artworks since it was first introduced in 2014.

With the additional two categories, which now allows artists to submit their art in a digital format and as a 3D physical piece, Pacifica Insurance hopes that more artists will participate in its annual art contest.

"The world has gone digital. We have all grown accustomed to producing art using applications on our phones, tablets, etc. However, we can never replace the effect that a physical art piece gives us as we touch, feel, and appreciate it in person. Expanding our art contest with physical 3D was an essential and exciting move for us," said Sablan.

The digital category first place winning art of Chia Hui Whang.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The traditional category 1 first place winning art of Maria Guerrero.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Artworks from every category were judged on four criteria: creativity and originality, quality of artwork, clarity of theme, and overall presentation.

Other artists who made it to the Top 10 were:

TRADITIONAL 1:

■ Erielle Mendoza
■ Daniel Nae
■ Sofia Cariaso
■ Sayema Sidur
■ Althea Lauron
■ Geeliana Deleon Guerrero
■ Brianna Deleon Guerrero
■ Kazzandra Drilon
■ Jae Hun Choi

TRADITIONAL 2:

■ Yang Sheng Shi
■ Earle San Nicolas
■ Marisa Wang
■ Tian Jiao Xu
■ Tian Si
■ Isa Nishitani
■ Juliana Vergara
■ Jhazmyn Nichole Valiente
■ Dayul Kwak

DIGITAL:

■ Summer Wania
■ Angelina Laxama
■ Anvrei Batobatan
■ Eianne Ladao
■ YuJeong Son
■ Ezra Alfred
■ Jing Lin
■ Ralph Molinar
■ Greatshen Martin

PHYSICAL 3D:

■ Louis Ogo was one of two artists who had an art entry for the 3D category. A video featuring his life-size entry will be featured on Pacifica's company social media pages.

The first-place winning art of Byul An in the traditional category 2.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pacifica Insurance invites the public to visit their office in Susupe to view and enjoy all top placing art pieces of this year's art contest, which will be on display throughout the holiday season.

To view top placing art entries online, log on to www.pacificains.com/artcontest. You may also find them on Pacifica's Facebook, Instagram and YouTube social media pages. ***(PR)***

The 3-dimensional first place winning art of Ashlynn Han.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NORTHERN MARIANAS PACIFIC MINI GAMES 2022

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

SPORTS DIRECTOR (Games Management)

Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022

Job Description:
Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee wishes to recruit a Sports Director. This individual will report directly to the CEO. You will need to build and maintain good relationships through your ability to ensure compliance with rules to Games Organizing Committees and other stakeholder groups such as Northern Marianas Sports Association (NMSA), Pacific Games Council (PGC), National and International Federations.

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Coordinating with NMSA and the National and International Federations about the scheduling of event venues
- Coordinating officials and umpires/referees
- Ensure compliance with PGC and International Federation or other association rules.
- Ensure all equipment is available and compliant with International Federation rules.
- Coordinate activities of assigned volunteers.
- Report unclean conditions, safety hazards and malfunctioning equipment.
- Other assigned duties.

Essential qualities:

- Experience in coordinating sports and/or leagues
- Knowledge of current rules and regulations of the NMPMG 2022 sports events
- Knowledge of computers and software applications as related to sports.
- Demonstrated knowledge of sports programming and equipment
- Knowledge of sports planning, control and scheduling
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills

Hours of Work:
This is a full-time position (36 hours weekly) with an occasional requirement to work outside of normal office hours.

Salary: $5000.00 per month per month (January 2022 - June 2022)

Language: Fluency in English; Chamorro and or Carolinian an advantage

How to Apply: If you meet the above requirement and are interested in the position, please send a resume or curriculum vitae along with a cover letter to the following postal or email address:

Postal Mail: Sports Director (Games Management) NMPMG2022 Application
P.O. Box 502476
Saipan, MP 96950

Email: vicente.babauta@gmail.com or info.northernmarianas2022@gmail.com

All applications must be received no later than 5:00 pm, December 3, 2021

Contact Person: Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, GOC Chairman Marco Peter
Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta

NORTHERN MARIANAS PACIFIC MINI GAMES 2022

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

LOGISTICS SUPERVISOR

Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022

Job Description:
The Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee wishes to recruit a Logistics Supervisor to be responsible for the overall coordination of all Games Logistics. The individual in this position will report directly to the NMPMG 2022 CEO. The incumbent will need to build and maintain good relationships through your ability to move materials, goods and products to ensure that they are in the right place to meet the necessary logistics needs of the Games Organizing Committee and other stakeholder groups such as the Northern Marianas Sports Association (NMSA), Pacific Games Council (PGC), National and International Federations.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Responsible for ensuring the right products and quantities are delivered to the right location on time and in the most effective way.
- Collaborate with the relevant Committee members on venue requirements and ensure all building contacts are fully informed of capacity and requests.
- Coordinate signage and set-up in preparation for the Games.
- Oversee the management of external supplies and other materials needed by the Committee.
- Support event logistics needs throughout the Games
- Collaborate with the CEO to give strategic direction to Logistics volunteers.
- Attend and participate in the NMPMG 2022 meetings
- Contribute to a strong team relationship which emphasizes teamwork and communication.
- Build strategic relationships with various campus and community partners who support the Games.
- Other assigned duties.

Essential Qualities:

- Prior experience working in Logistics.
- Willingness to perform tasks within short timeframes
- Ability to manage high numbers of requests
- Previous experience in event planning
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with different audiences
- Strong public relations, teamwork, and organization skills
- Enthusiastic personality
- Ability to meet deadlines and work well under pressure
- Strong interpersonal, organizational, and project management skills
- Demonstrated initiative; ability to recognize problems quickly and apply sound solutions
- Results-oriented and reliable

Hours of Work:
This is a full-time position (36 hours weekly) with occasional work outside of normal work hours.

Salary: $3000.00 per month (January 2022 – June 2022)

Language: Fluency in English, Chamorro and or Carolinian an advantage.

How to Apply: If you meet the above requirement and are interested in the position, please send a resume or curriculum vitae along with a cover letter to the following postal or email address:

Postal Mail: Logistics Supervisor NMPMG2022 Application
P.O. Box 502476
Saipan, MP 96950

Email: vicente.babauta@gmail.com or info.northernmarianas2022@gmail.com

All applications must be received no later than 5:00 pm, December 3, 2021

Contact Person: Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, GOC Chairman Marco Peter
Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022, CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-22-003

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF BUCKET TRUCKS AND TRUCK CRANE

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the supply and delivery of six bucket trucks and one 30ton truck crane for the CUC Power Distribution in Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded from the United states Department of the Interior (USDOIA).

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-22-003, Supply and Delivery of Bucket Trucks and Truck Crane)"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on December 6, 2021** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 12, 2021**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Lee Lieto, CUC Power Division Manager via email lee.lieto@cucgov.org, and Adrian Reyes, CUC Power Division Engineer at email adrian.reyes@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Search suspended for missing mariner

SANTA RITA, Guam— The U.S. Coast Guard has suspended the active search for a missing mariner last seen aboard the *Ming Maan Shiang No. 38* northeast of Guam, Monday.

The mariner, believed to have fallen overboard, remains missing.

"Working with the Navy and the crew of the *Ming Maan Shiang No. 38*, we conducted a total of 18 searches, over the course of 73 hours, covering over 5,345 square miles," said Lt. j. g. Deborah King, the operations unit controller at Joint-Rescue Sub-Center Guam. "It's never an easy decision to suspend a search and rescue case."

At 2:04pm Thursday, Coast Guard Forces Micronesia | Sector Guam watchstanders received notification from Taipei Rescue Coordination Center of a missing crewmember from the fishing vessel *Ming Maan Shiang* 425 miles northeast of Guam.

Upon notification, Sector Guam watchstanders issued an urgent marine information broadcast and deployed assets to search the area while also coordinating with local and federal partners.

Involved in the search were the crew of the Coast Guard cutter *Oliver Henry*; an Air Station Barbers Point C-130 Hercules aircrew; Coast Guard Forces Micronesia | Sector Guam watchstanders; Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center watchstanders; a Navy P-8 Poesiden aircrew; and the crew of the *Ming Maan Shaiang No. 38.* ***(USCG)***

DROPOFF SITE

Bank of Saipan is an official 2021 "Toys for Tots" partner this holiday season. Community members who would like to donate toys to the "Toys for Tots" program can drop off their donation at Bank of Saipan. The "Toys for Tots" program is a charitable initiative hosted by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve that provides toys to disadvantaged children during the Christmas holiday season. The program is spearheaded by the Associated Students of Northern Marianas College and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. Businesses who would like to participate in this program and host a toy collection box can email saipantoys4tots@gmail.com.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Veteran town hall meetings kick off Monday

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, through the CNMI Office of the Governor and the CNMI Office of Veterans Affairs, invites all veterans residing on Saipan to a series of veteran town hall meetings to discuss issues of concern for veterans and military families.

The first town hall meeting is slated for Monday, Nov. 29, 2021, at the Kagman Community Center in Kagman from 6pm to 8pm.

The second meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 6, 2021, at the Tanapag Youth Center in Tanapag and will also be from 6pm to 8pm.

Future meeting schedules will be announced later, which will include meetings on Rota and Tinian.

The town hall meetings are designed to be an interactive forum for veterans and military families to voice their needs and concerns.

Contact the CNMI Office of Veterans Affairs at (670) 664-2650 for more information. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-22-007

MANNED SECURITY GUARD SERVICES FOR CUC FACILITIES ON SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive bids from qualified firms to provide Manned Security Guard Services for various sites at CUC, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

Contractors must provide proof of "Indemnity Liability Insurance," specifically covering security workers assigned to CUC's compound. Coverage must be a minimum of $200,000.00. The Contractor shall agree to and indemnify and hold CUC harmless from and against all liability, loss, damage or injury, and all cost and expenses (including attorneys' fees and costs of any suit related thereto) suffered or incurred by the Cooperative, arising from or related to Contractor's negligent performance under the contract.

Proponents shall provide a certification signed by a principal of the company stating that the company is currently in full compliance with all applicable CNMI and Federal Labor Laws and has been for the past Five (5) years. Proponents shall submit a listing of all of its employees (US & Foreign) with corresponding job titles and a certification of good standing from the CNMI Department of Labor. Failure of the company to provide the certification is grounds to reject the entire Bid.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-22-007*, Security Guard Services", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST, Saipan Time) on November 29, 2021**. Late submissions of Bids will not be considered.

This Invitation for bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of Bid in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. All responses to this Invitation for bids should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the Proponent, awarded a contract.

All Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proponents due to lack of information or understanding of the Bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a Bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST, Saipan Time) on November 24 , 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Richard Cano, CUC Power Generation Manager at email richard.cano@cucgov.org and John Mafnas, CUC Contracts officer via email address john.mafnas@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Technician, Senior at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:	Opening Date	Closing Date
2021-039	CDBG-DR Compliance Manager (1-Position) RE-ANNOUNCEMENT	UNGRADED $50,000.00 to $60,000.00 per annum	November 10, 2021	November 26, 2021 4:00 PM
2021-041	CDBG-DR Internal Auditor (1-Position)	UNGRADED $50,000.00 to $60,000.00 per annum	November 10, 2021	November 26, 2021 4:00 PM

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information can be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net and www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; the CDBG-DR Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Ladera Building, Chalan Laulau, Beach Road; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre- employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan

NOTICE OF REGULAR SHEFA BOARD MEETING

In accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 *et seq.*, as amended, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA) Board is hereby giving notice of its regular board meeting, to be held on November 24, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., Office of SHEFA conference room, 2nd Floor, CTC Building, Oleai, Beach Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Adoption of agenda
   4. Adoption of Minutes from October 20, 2021

II. **Public Comment (s)**

III. **Committee Reports**
   a. Committee on Awards
   b. Committee on Appeal/Deferments/Forbearance
   c. Committee on Policy and Procedures
   d. Committee on Program and Development
   e. Committee of Fiscal, Legislative, and Community Affairs

IV. **Administrator's Report**

V. **Chairman's Report**

VI. **Old Business**
   1. Guam Marianas Training Center

VII. **New Business**
   1. Fall 2021 application status

VIII. **Executive Session**

IX. **Miscellaneous Matters**

X. **Next Meeting**

XI. **Adjournment**

/s/ Oscar M. Babauta, Chairman,
Board of SHEFA Directors

Torres says Coldeen is part of the CNMI history

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres said Friday last week that the people of the CNMI will remember longtime KSPN sportscaster Bob Coldeen, who has retired after 28 years.

Torres said he and the people of the CNMI are thankful to Coldeen, who is definitely a part of the CNMI's history.

Coldeen

"Bob, I can't thank you enough. The people of the CNMI thank you for everything that you have done," he said.

The governor said if there is anyone in this island, even from abroad, who want to learn about the CNMI's history, not just in sports but overall, Coldeen is the right person to ask.

Torres said Coldeen has shared so many stories and has made a huge impact in the sports and the life of sports in the CNMI.

The governor said the people of the CNMI will be forever grateful to Coldeen and his family for his sports coverage in the last 28 years.

Coldeen, 70, retired last Oct. 29.

Before being a TV sportscaster, he was a Peace Corp volunteer, a Rota High School teacher, and a Public School System programs coordinator.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CUC hours of operation

In observance of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s office hours will be:

■ Wednesday, Nov. 24 2021
Offices: Closed at 11:30am
Customer Center: Closed at 1pm

■ Thursday, Nov. 25 2021 (Thanksgiving Day) Closed all day

■ Friday, Nov. 26 2021
Closed all day *(PR)*

SHEFA application submission deadline

Deadline to submit spring 2022 application only for new and returning applicants for Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance is on Dec. 1, 2021 (Wednesday). No need to submit an application if you are an ongoing recipient. *(PR)*

Medication puts a damper on patient's love life

DEAR ABBY: I've dealt with anxiety and depression for decades, but I'm finally on a medication that works for me. I'm in my 40s and feel emotionally stable for the first time in my adult life. When I started the medication, I was in a bad place, but after a few months I broke up with my partner and began focusing on my career.

It has been a couple of years now, and I have no sex drive at all. I have been feeling the desire to start dating again, but even if I meet someone, I doubt my libido will return while I'm on this medication, which would be unfair to the other person. I'm afraid my choice is between future relationships and my mental health. My doctor offered to add another drug that might help, but it took so long to find something that works, I don't want to start experimenting again. Can you offer any advice?

GOTTEN THIS FAR IN ILLINOIS

DEAR GOTTEN: I am pleased to know that after so much trial and error you've finally found a medication that has allowed you to get your life back. I urge you to listen to your doctor. If your physician thinks there is something that might help, give it a try. If it disrupts the strides you have made, you can always stop. But please don't deprive yourself of the opportunity to live a fuller life.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am engaged to "George," a wonderful man who has adult children. He and his ex went through a bitter divorce several years ago. His children mainly blame him, but he still tries to maintain relationships with them.

The younger two seem to have accepted it over time. His oldest daughter, however, is very close to her mother and still bitter. She's getting married and has expressed to him that she doesn't want him to bring any guests. George and I have been living together for the last year, and it was never a secret that we were dating before then. I don't know how to feel about this. I have no relationship with his children, but I would like to be there. How should I address this?

LEFT OUT IN THE EAST

DEAR LEFT OUT: In plain English. Ask George how he feels about being expected to go unaccompanied to his daughter's wedding in light of the fact he has been cohabiting with you for a year. (Is he expected to participate?) When you do, point out to your fiance that if his daughter is allowed to dictate this, it will be only the beginning, because there will be other milestones from which you are also excluded.

■■■

DEAR READERS: Tomorrow is Thanksgiving, and no Thanksgiving would be complete without my sharing the traditional prayer penned by my dear late mother:

Oh, Heavenly Father,

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

We thank Thee for food and remember the hungry.
We thank Thee for health and remember the sick.
We thank Thee for friends and remember the friendless.
We thank Thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.
May these remembrances stir us to service,
That Thy gifts to us may be used for others.
Amen.

Have a happy and safe celebration, everyone!—Love, ABBY

■■■

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

NORTHERN MARIANAS COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 506689, SAIPAN, MP 96950
PHONE: (670) 234-3878
EMAIL: INFO@ENDVIOLENCENMI.ORG
HOURS: 9AM TO 5PM, M-F, CLOSED ON FEDERAL HOLIDAYS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PROGRAM COORDINATOR (2 POSITIONS)

Job Summary: The Program Coordinator will work with the Executive Director of NMCADSV, Associate Director, other NMCADSV staff, and its Board to achieve its mission, goals and objectives. The Program Coordinator will participate in the daily operations of NMCADSV, as well as provide support for NMCADSV's programmatic activities. The Program Coordinator will work with the Associate Director to plan and execute activities in relation to NMCADSV's mission and goals, with particular attention to specific activities outlined in corresponding grant applications.

Minimum Qualifications: High School Diploma or Equivalent; an agreement with NMCADSV's mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence; experience with community organizing and/or outreach; experience planning and executing events; demonstrated proficiency in written and oral communication; proficiency in MS Applications or Google Applications; ability to manage multiple tasks and deadlines; ability to work some nights and weekends; and must be able to travel within the CNMI and US Mainland.

Highly-Desired Qualifications: Knowledge of dynamics of sexual violence and/or domestic violence; 1 year or more of documented experience/work with non-profit organizations or volunteerism; and own transportation, with documented insurance, registration, and a valid driver's license.

Classification & Salary Range: Full Time, Non-Exempt. $14.00 to $18.25 per hour (based on experience and qualifications). Full benefits including paid leave and health insurance.

To Apply: **A Resume and Cover Letter** should be submitted on or before **5:00pm on Tuesday, December 7, 2021.** Provide a list (not copies) of any certifications or awards. Late and incomplete submissions will not be considered. Resumes, cover letters, and other documents may be emailed to info@endviolencenmi.org OR delivered to the NMCADSV Office at the Marina Heights I Building in Puerto Rico, Saipan during hours of operation OR mailed to NMCADSV postmarked on or before the deadline. Applicants who are asked to interview will be asked to bring a copy of their Diploma(s) or equivalent, Police Clearance (dated within 30 days), valid Passport, and a list of references.

NMCADSV is an equal opportunity employer. Individuals from under-served communities are encouraged to apply. Copies of the full Position Description can be requested by email at info@endviolencenmi.org OR downloaded from https://linktr.ee/endviolencenmi OR picked up from the NMCADSV Office.

This project is supported by Grant No. 2019-MU-AX-0013 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice and Grant No. 2101MPSDVC awarded by the Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/proposal/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the US Department of Justice or the US Department of Health and Human Services.

NORTHERN MARIANAS COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE
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PHONE: (670) 234-3878
EMAIL: INFO@ENDVIOLENCENMI.ORG
HOURS: 9AM TO 5PM, M-F, CLOSED ON FEDERAL HOLIDAYS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAM (SART) MANAGER

Job Summary: The SART Manager will work with the Executive Director of NMCADSV, NMCADSV staff, and its Board to achieve the mission, goals, and objectives of the organization. The SART Manager will be primarily responsible for CNMI-wide systems advocacy to cultivate the prevention of sexual violence and victim-centered responses for victims of sexual assault. This includes taking a leadership role in facilitating cross-discipline collaboration, providing ongoing training and technical assistance to SART members and allied organizations, and obtaining feedback from all partners to develop policies and protocols that support victim-centered and empowerment-based responses to victims of sexual assault.

Minimum Qualifications: High School Diploma or Equivalent; an understanding of and agreement with NMCADSV's mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence; strong communication skills, verbal and written, with diverse groups of people and professionals; strong organizational, collaborative, and project management skills; experience with training or providing education to various audiences; experience with facilitating meetings and bringing stakeholders together for collaborative efforts; ability to facilitate engagement and interest among allied partners with positive and professional communication; ability to organize and work with partners from a variety of organizations such as law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates, court personnel, healthcare professionals, and other community organizations; experience with assessments and analysis; ability to implement complex projects with extremely tight deadlines; must be able to travel within the CNMI and US Mainland; and must have access to reliable transportation.

Classification & Salary Range: Full Time, Exempt. $16 to $22 per hour (based on experience and qualifications). Full benefits including paid leave and health insurance.

To Apply: **A Resume and Cover Letter** should be submitted on or before **5:00pm on Tuesday, December 7, 2021.** Provide a list (not copies) of any certifications or awards. Late and incomplete submissions will not be considered. Resumes, cover letters, and other documents may be emailed to info@endviolencenmi.org OR delivered to the NMCADSV Office at the Marina Heights I Building in Puerto Rico, Saipan during hours of operation OR mailed to NMCADSV postmarked on or before the deadline. Applicants who are asked to interview will be asked to bring a copy of their Diploma(s) or equivalent, Police Clearance (dated within 30 days), valid Passport, and a list of references.

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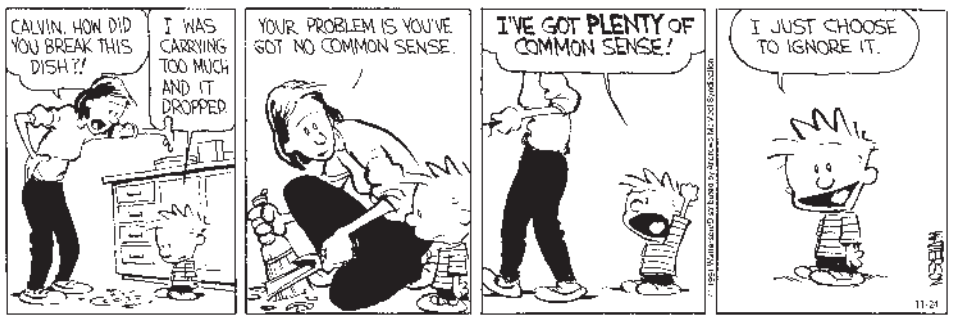
This project is supported by Grant No. 2019-WR-AX-0051 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/proposal/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

Pastimes

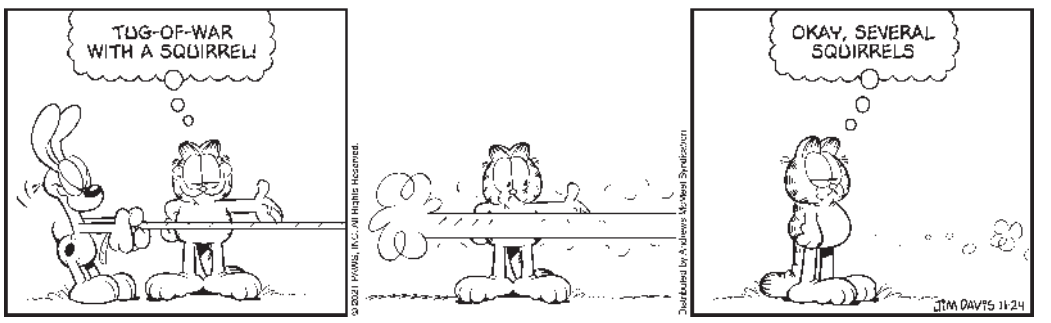
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


CALVIN, HOW DID YOU BREAK THIS DISH?!
I WAS CARRYING TOO MUCH AND IT DROPPED.
YOUR PROBLEM IS YOU'VE GOT NO COMMON SENSE.
I'VE GOT PLENTY OF COMMON SENSE!
I JUST CHOOSE TO IGNORE IT.

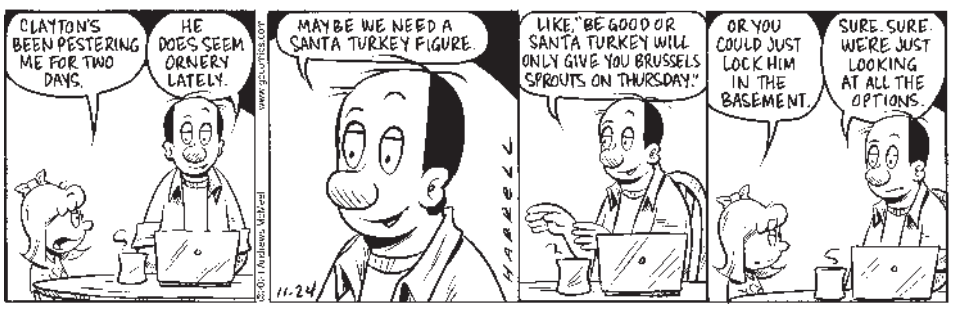
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



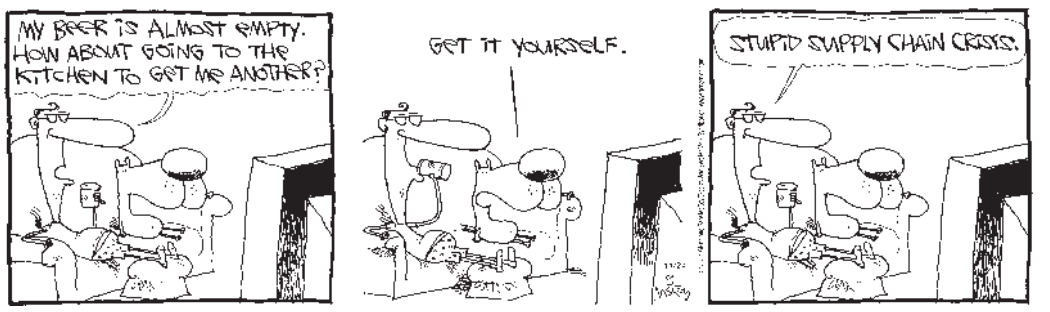
Adam@Home

By Bryan Basset


CLAYTON'S BEEN PESTERING ME FOR TWO DAYS.
HE DOES SEEM ORNERY LATELY.
MAYBE WE NEED A SANTA TURKEY FIGURE.
LIKE, "BE GOOD OR SANTA TURKEY WILL ONLY GIVE YOU BRUSSELS SPROUTS ON THURSDAY."
OR YOU COULD JUST LOCK HIM IN THE BASEMENT.
SURE. SURE. WE'RE JUST LOOKING AT ALL THE OPTIONS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Homeowner's document
5 Lean- — (sheds)
8 Distort
12 Lighten
13 Knock
14 Far (Pref.)
15 Baltimore seafood treat
17 Holler
18 Egyptian deity
19 Urge
21 Sound of relief
22 Mr. Kringle
23 Uno + uno
26 British ref. work
28 Bike components
31 Region
33 Insult, slangily
35 Revue segment
36 Army bigwigs
38 Kung — chicken
40 Ambulance letters
41 Call it a day
43 Resort
45 Airy dessert
47 Biker's headgear
51 Jacob's brother
52 Tchaikovsky ballet
54 — -Seltzer
55 Plaything
56 Gymnast Korbut
57 Yuletide tune
58 "You bet!"
59 Own (up)

DOWN

1 Erte's style
2 Jug handles
3 Actor Morales
4 Messing on TV
5 Wrecked
6 Sturdy tree
7 Bit of dust
8 Thwarts
9 Memento
10 Vogue rival
11 Healthy
16 Pisa farewell
20 URL ending
23 Apply cream
24 Bobby of hockey
25 Big ocean motion
27 Quick swim
29 Edge
30 Rds.
32 Like always
34 Glides
37 Venus, to Serena
39 Frank
42 Irritable
44 — the above
45 Intend
46 City on a fjord
48 Like ganders
49 Heart charts (Abbr.)
50 Herbal brews
53 Misery

Solution time: 23 mins.

F	O	B	S	■	S	C	I	■	C	A	P	P
A	S	E	A	■	C	A	N	■	A	C	E	S
C	H	E	W	T	O	Y	S	■	R	H	E	A
T	A	R	■	E	L	S	■	A	D	E	P	T
■	■	■	C	A	D	■	E	X	I	■	■	■
C	R	O	A	K	■	P	A	L	A	C	E	S
C	C	E	R	■	T	A	U	■	B	U	N	K
B	A	R	R	E	L	S	■	E	L	E	G	Y
■	■	■	O	R	C	■	A	L	E	■	■	■
M	A	L	T	A	■	■	D	A	■	Y	U	P
A	B	E	T	■	C	O	I	N	T	O	S	S
N	I	N	O	■	O	T	O	■	O	L	D	S
S	I	O	P	■	G	A	S	■	G	O	A	T

Yesterday's answer 11-24

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				16				■	17			
18						■	19	20				
■	■	■	21			■	22				■	■
23	24	25	■	26		27	■	28			29	30
31			32	■	33		34	■	35			
36				37	■	38		39	■	40		
■	■	41			42	■	43		44	■	■	■
45	46						47			48	49	50
51				■	52	53						
54					55				■	56		
57				■	58					59		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sarah Hyland, 31; Katherine Heigl, 43; Colin Hanks, 44; Danielle Nicolet, 48.

Happy Birthday: Explore your options, but use common sense. Don't veer down a path that is colorful and exciting but not realistic. If something sounds too good to be true, it's probably false. Don't participate in something that will hold you hostage. Plan carefully this year, and stick to your playbook. Discipline, honesty and hard work will lead to success. Your numbers are 4, 13, 21, 25, 34, 36, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Join forces with like-minded people. An investment will stabilize your financial situation and add to your comfort. Home improvements are favored if you do the work yourself and stay within budget. Don't take a risk with your health or reputation. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You'll need a buffer to ward off negativity and competition. Get your facts straight, and arm yourself with knowledge and a long-term plan that will help you outmaneuver anyone trying to come between you and your goal. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Share your plans and your likes and dislikes. Lay your cards on the table and wait for a response. Someone will show their true colors. Be ready to adjust and carry on as planned. Eliminate what doesn't work for you. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Limit your spending. Look for a way to compensate for something that lacks funds. Share your experience with someone who can offer insight, experience and a way to turn a negative into a positive. A unique partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Say what's on your mind. Take control, show initiative and bring about the changes that will make your life easier. Stop following others; turn on the charm and take a position of leadership. Create opportunities instead of waiting for them to happen. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Reconnect with someone who inspires you, and the magic of language will lead you in a new and exciting direction. Let your imagination take over, and allow plans to develop. Change is on the horizon that you won't want to miss. Embrace life. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Pay attention to detail and how you present yourself and your work. Discipline is required to finish what you start. An enticing offer will tempt you to indulge. Stick to your plan, regardless of what others do or say. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Dance to your own beat, enjoy life and use your skills to improve yourself, others and anything that concerns you in your community. Don't make a big deal out of something inconsequential, but call a spade a spade when necessary. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You can be colorful without stretching the truth. An uncertain situation will cost you if you get involved without doing enough research. Look for inconsistency when dealing with others, and you will find it easier to decipher what's real and what isn't. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Take on whatever will help you get ahead. Show dedication, enthusiasm and innovation, and you'll gain recognition for your input. It's up to you to bring about positive change that will revolutionize how you live in the future. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Dispose of anger and resentment; replace them with intelligence and the will to do and be your best. Compete with yourself, not others. Take the path that is in sync with what you are trying to achieve. Walk away from manipulative people. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): A creative idea will gain momentum as you physically put your plan in place. Don't wait for others to catch up; do your thing and take credit. Listen to criticism, but don't lose sight of what you are trying to accomplish. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, honorable and intelligent. You are original and playful.

✪ ***star:*** *Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes.* ✪✪ ***stars:*** *You can accomplish, but don't rely on others.* ✪✪✪ ***stars:*** *Focus and you'll reach your goals.* ✪✪✪✪ ***stars:*** *Aim high; start new projects.* ✪✪✪✪✪ ***stars:*** *Nothing can stop you; go for gold.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

						8	5	
					5	7	6	9
				6	4	1		3
			9	5		4	1	6
4	1	9 3	1					
7		1	4					
8			7					
9	2	6	5					

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	8	7	4	9	6	3	5	1
6	1	5	2	3	8	4	7	9
3	9	4	1	7	5	8	6	2
9	6	8	5	1	7	2	4	3
7	5	2	3	8	4	9	1	6
4	3	1	9	6	2	5	8	7
1	4	6	8	2	3	7	9	5
5	7	3	6	4	9	1	2	8
8	2	9	7	5	1	6	3	4

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/23

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

PASTA NAMES AND SHAPES **Solution: 8 letters**

V	T	P	A	P	P	A	R	D	E	L	L	E	S	R
I	E	A	A	N	I	B	R	A	Ⓔ	L	H	E	I	N
E	N	R	G	B	C	I	L	Ⓞ	G	I	B	B	R	O
H	I	I	M	L	I	I	Ⓘ	O	T	U	B	O	E	O
C	R	O	R	I	I	Ⓛ	N	H	T	O	H	M	W	T
I	R	E	M	A	C	A	R	O	N	I	A	A	O	S
T	E	Z	I	T	I	E	T	A	T	P	T	F	L	E
S	G	N	I	R	A	L	L	E	I	A	S	U	F	F
U	U	P	G	D	E	P	G	L	L	T	G	S	M	R
R	L	E	S	R	H	F	L	A	I	L	A	I	C	A
O	A	N	A	A	A	U	F	E	T	L	E	L	R	V
T	R	N	B	F	S	I	S	I	T	R	O	L	S	I
I	F	E	D	E	L	I	N	I	H	U	D	I	T	O
N	T	E	S	H	A	P	E	S	D	C	O	R	A	L
I	P	I	C	C	H	I	A	R	E	L	L	I	R	I

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Alphabet, Barbina, Bigoli, Boil, Chef, Chifferi, Cloud, Coral, Curl, Elbow, Fedelini, Festoon, Flower, Fusilli, Grains, Half, Hats, Irregular, Macaroni, Pappardelle, Penne, Picchiarelli, Pici, Pillus, Ravioli, Ribbon, Rigatoni, Rings, Rombi, Rotini, Rustiche, Salt, Shapes, Star, Tagliarini, Tagliatelle, Threads, Ties, Tubes, Vermicelli, Ziti

Yesterday's Answer: Vintage

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Tom Brady tosses 2 TDs, Buccaneers beat Giants, 30-10

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Tom Brady stepped up in the pocket to scramble, high-stepped a tackler, slid hard for a first down and got up pumping his arm and screaming.

That's one way to erase the taste of losing.

Brady threw for 307 yards and two touchdowns and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers beat the New York Giants 30-10 on Monday night.

The Super Bowl champion Buccaneers (7-3) snapped a two-game skid as Brady avoided dropping three in a row for the first time since 2002.

"We're at a decent point but we can play a lot better than we've played," Brady said. "Hoping our best football is ahead of us."

Brady started 10 for 10 before misfiring on a deep ball to Mike Evans. On the next play, the 44-year-old scrambled 10 yards on third-and-4 to extend Tampa's drive that ended with Ryan Succop kicking a 25-yard field goal that made it 10-3.

"Eleven-yard run. They don't happen very often so I do remember how far they go," Brady said, unaware it was officially ruled 10 yards.

Rob Gronkowski joked that he was open up the seam for a touchdown on the play.

"He could've just chucked it up but I saw him running and that was pretty dope," Gronkowski said. "That was pretty impressive."

Daniel Jones threw a TD pass to left tackle Andrew Thomas and the Giants (3-7) stayed close for one half before unraveling.

"We have to do a better job of putting our players in position to make plays," Giants coach Joe Judge said. "We have to make sure we sit down (Tuesday) as a coaching staff and understand how we're going to play this game and give our players a chance to make plays."

Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady (12) throws a pass against the New York Giants during the first half of an NFL football game Monday, Nov. 22, 2021, in Tampa, Fla. AP

Down 17-10, the Giants drove to the Buccaneers 25 on the opening drive of the third quarter before Jones, under pressure from Devin White, threw incomplete on fourth-and-1 after rushing to the line to beat the play clock.

Brady then connected with Evans on a 5-yard TD pass to extend the lead to 24-10. Evans set a franchise record with his 72nd touchdown, passing Mike Alstott. He made sure to keep the ball after giving away Brady's 600th TD pass to a fan earlier in the season.

"I'm very proud of that accomplishment. Hopefully I can extend it really far," Evans said. "I'm very proud. A-Train was an unbelievable player. I'm happy to be in the same sentence as him, let alone break his record. It's a blessing."

Jones threw an interception to 310-pound nose tackle Steve McLendon on New York's next possession, but Tampa settled for Succop's 40-yard field goal despite starting at the Giants 37. It was McLendon's first career pick in 12 seasons.

Jones was picked by Mike Edwards in the fourth quarter and Succop hit a 30-yarder to cap the scoring.

Brady finished 30 of 46 with one interception. He improved to 6-1 against the Giants in the regular season but has lost two Super Bowls to New York, including one that prevented New England from a perfect season.

The seven-time Super Bowl champion leads the NFL with 29 TD passes and is second in yards passing with 3,172.

Gronkowski was back in Tampa's lineup after missing five of the previous six games. Brady targeted his buddy eight times, connecting with the four-time All-Pro tight end on six passes for 71 yards.

Star running back Saquon Barkley returned for the Giants after missing four games with a sprained ankle but only had 25 yards rushing on six carries.

Jones was sacked twice by a ferocious defense that was missing defensive tackle Vita Vea due to a knee injury.

Brady came out firing, completing his first five passes, including a 13-yard TD toss to Chris Godwin.

The Giants tied it at 10-10 after Evans let a pass bounce off his hands and right to Adoree Jackson, who returned the pick 5 yards to the Buccaneers 10.

Jones lofted a 2-yard TD pass to Thomas, who had to jump as he was backing up to haul it in. The 6-foot-6, 315-pound Thomas, wearing a brace on his right arm, was back after missing four games. He celebrated his first career reception with the rest of the offensive line circling around him.

The Giants have lost 10 straight games in prime time, including contests at Washington and Kansas City this season.

After using an offensive lineman as a receiver, the Giants had rookie receiver Kardarius Toney throw a deep pass to Darius Slayton that fell incomplete. Cornerback Sean Murphy-Bunting was initially called for pass interference on the play, but the flag was picked up.

Analysis: Some teams just needed more time to bloom

By ROB MAADDI
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs are back in a familiar spot. Same for Bill Belichick and the New England Patriots.

The Chiefs and Patriots have surged to first place in their respective divisions with monthlong winning streaks. The Colts, 49ers and Eagles have also turned things around in November.

In the NFL's longest season, counting teams out before Halloween was premature.

The Chiefs beat Dallas 19-9 on Sunday for their fourth straight victory since a 27-3 loss to Tennessee on Oct. 24. They now lead the jumbled AFC West by a half-game over the Chargers (6-4) and should be favorites to win their sixth straight division title.

Mahomes had a career-low passer rating against the Titans and some people were questioning if the 26-year-old had already played his best football in his first four seasons when he won an NFL MVP award and a Super Bowl MVP trophy in consecutive years.

Since then, Mahomes has seven touchdown passes and only two interceptions during Kansas City's four-game winning streak that has been fueled by a suddenly stingy defense that has allowed just 11.8 points per game in that span. The unit allowed just three field goals to Dak Prescott and the league's top-ranked offense.

"Since the second half of the Tennessee game, those guys have been playing better," Mahomes said of the defense. "It got lost because the offense wasn't playing very well. We were winning games because of our defense and people were so used to our offense going out and putting up these numbers. But every weekend I was right here at the podium saying don't lose track of how good our defense is playing. To go up against an offense like the (Cowboys) that has put up so many yards and scores, and shut it down, that's impressive."

If Kansas City's improved defense continues to play well, Mahomes and the Chiefs could be playing in the Super Bowl for the third year in a row.

One of the top teams standing in their way will be the Patriots, a scenario nobody could've envisioned when New England opened the season 2-4. Back then, it seemed the Patriots' wild, spending frenzy in free agency was wasted money. But New England kicked off Week 11 with a 25-0 win at Atlanta on Thursday night. The Pats (7-4) have won five in a row behind a strong defense and solid play from rookie quarterback Mac Jones. After a rare losing season, they're back leading the AFC East, a division New England owned for two decades before Tom Brady left for Tampa Bay.

The Colts started 0-3 with new quarterback Carson Wentz coming over from Philadelphia after a dismal season with the Eagles that looked like it would carry over to his new home. But Wentz has been steady—18 touchdowns, 3 picks—and Indianapolis has won six of the last eight games. Jonathan Taylor was spectacular in a dominant 41-15 win at Buffalo on Sunday, scoring five TDs. At 6-5, Indianapolis is back in the playoff race.

The 49ers were 2-4 after losing four in a row and many were wondering when coach Kyle Shanahan would bench Jimmy Garoppolo for rookie Trey Lance. But Shanahan stuck with Garoppolo after the worst game of his career in a 30-18 loss to the Colts and the veteran has responded with a string of strong performances. Garoppolo has posted a passer rating over 100 in four straight games, leading San Francisco to three wins. After a rout over the Rams on Monday night, the Niners traveled cross-country and defeated Jacksonville soundly 30-10 on Sunday.

The 49ers are one of three teams tied at 5-5 vying for wild-card spots that should come down to the final week.

A month ago, half the city of Philadelphia wanted rookie coach Nick Sirianni fired for using a flower analogy to motivate his 2-5 team. Riding the legs of Jalen Hurts and a commitment to the run, the Eagles (5-6) have won three of four, including a 40-29 victory over New Orleans on Sunday. With a favorable schedule down the stretch, the Eagles have a real shot to make a playoff push.

Jackson's big finish helps Grizzlies edge Jazz, 119-118

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Jaren Jackson scored a season-high 26 points, winning a jump ball and hitting a 3-pointer in the final seconds, to lift the Memphis Grizzlies to a 119-118 victory over the Utah Jazz on Monday night.

Ja Morant had 32 points and Desmond Bane added a career-high 28 as the Grizzlies scored the final seven points for their third win in their last four games.

Bojan Bogdanovic scored 24 points and made a season-best seven 3-pointers. He made back-to-back jumpers from beyond the arc in the final two minutes to put the Jazz in prime position.

Tied at 112, Rudy Gobert blocked Morant's floater and Royce O'Neale found Bogdanovic for a transition 3. The next time down, the Croatian sharpshooter drained a step-back 3 for a 118-112 lead with 1:28 remaining.

Memphis hit four of six free throws while stopping the Jazz on consecutive possessions. Then, on Morant's miss with 14.1 seconds left, an official review remaining showed Gobert did not interfere with the ball in the cylinder.

It resulted in a jump ball at midcourt, which Jackson won over Gobert. He then he hit a 3-pointer with 5.7 seconds to play for a 119-118 edge.

Donovan Mitchell, who had 18 points on 5-of-20 shooting, missed an off-balance jumper at the buzzer.

Gobert had 23 points and 13 rebounds, while Mike Conley had 19 points and assists for the Jazz.

Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant, right, dunks on Utah Jazz center Hassan Whiteside during the second half of an NBA basketball game Monday, Nov. 22, 2021, in Salt Lake City. AP

Suns 115, Spurs 111

In San Antonio, Devin Booker had 23 points, Deandre Ayton had 21 points and 14 rebounds and the Phoenix Suns won their 13th straight, rolling past the San Antonio Spurs 115-111 on Monday night.

Cameron Payne added 20 points off the bench for Phoenix, which had six players finish in double figures. Phoenix finished with 25 assists and went 45 for 87 (51.1%) from the field.

San Antonio point guard Dejounte Murray had 18 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds for his seventh career triple-double. But the Spurs have now lost five straight and eight of 10 for their second-worst start in franchise history.

Celtics 108, Rockets 90

In Boston, Jayson Tatum scored 30 points, Jaylen Brown had 19 in his return from missing eight games with an injury and Boston coasted by Houston, sending the Rockets to their 15th straight loss.

Dennis Schroder added 18 points for Boston, which has won three straight and eight of 11. Al Horford had 11 points and 11 rebounds. It was Tatum's fourth straight game with 30 or more points.

Armoni Brooks had 17 points for Houston (1-16). No starter reached double-digit scoring. The Rockets' only win came at home against Oklahoma City in their second game.

Bucks 123, Magic 92

In Milwaukee, Jrue Holiday scored 18 points and Milwaukee opened the biggest halftime lead in franchise history on its way to a blowout of Orlando.

The Bucks' 77-36 lead at the break also was Orlando's biggest halftime deficit ever. Milwaukee eventually built the margin to 51, becoming the first team to lead a game by at least 50 points this season.

Milwaukee's Pat Connaughton scored 17 and shot 5 of 7 from 3-point range as the Bucks won their fourth straight. Bobby Portis had 13 points and 11 rebounds. Giannis Antetokounmpo had 12 points, eight rebounds and nine assists in only 24 minutes.

Moritz Wagner led Orlando with 18 points. The Magic also got 14 from R.J. Hampton, 13 each from Robin Lopez and Mychal Mulder and 12 from Chuma Okeke.

Pacers 109, Bulls 77

In Chicago, Domantas Sabonis scored 21 points, Malcolm Brogdon added 16 more, and Indiana routed Chicago.

Myles Turner also scored 12 points and hauled in 10 rebounds in Indiana's second straight win.

DeMar DeRozan led the Bulls with 18 points, while Zach LaVine scored 17—just the second time this season he was held to fewer than 20 points.

Nets 117, Cavaliers 112

In Cleveland, Kevin Durant returned to Brooklyn's lineup and scored 27 points, James Harden added 14 points and a season-high 14 assists, and the Nets beat Cleveland.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 21 points and 11 rebounds off the bench for the Nets, who won for the sixth time in seven games.

Darius Garland scored 24 and Jared Allen had 20 points and 15 rebounds. Lauri Markkanen added 22 points in his first game since Nov. 1 for the still short-handed Cavs, who had chances down the stretch but missed some shots and made critical mistakes.

Hornets 109, Wizards 103

In Washington, Terry Rozier scored a season-high 32 points and hit his eighth 3-pointer of the game with 12.9 seconds left as Charlotte beat Washington.

LaMelo Ball had 28 points and 13 rebounds to help Charlotte to its second win over Washington in the last week.

Montrezl Harrell scored 24 points and had a season-high 18 rebounds for the Wizards, while Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had 17 points, Bradley Beal scored 18 and Kyle Kuzma had 11 points and 13 rebounds.

Hawks 113, Thunder 101

In Atlanta, Trae Young scored 21 of his 30 points in the second half, Clint Capela finished with 10 points and 15 rebounds, and Atlanta closed a perfect five-game homestand with a win over Oklahoma City.

Thunder rookie Josh Giddey, a 19-year old guard from Australia, had with 15 points, eight assists and seven rebounds, and Luguentz Dort added 15 points. Oklahoma City was without leading scorer Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, who missed his first game of the season with a sprained right ankle.

Timberwolves 110, Pelicans 96

In New Orleans, Karl-Anthony Towns had 28 points and 10 rebounds, and Minnesota extended its winning streak to four with a victory New Orleans.

Anthony Edwards scored 13 of his 18 points in the second half and Jarred Vanderbilt, who came in averaging five points per game, matched his season high with 16 points and grabbed 11 rebounds.

The Timberwolves dominated the hustle categories, too, converting 23 New Orleans turnovers into 28 points and 21 offensive rebounds into 26 second-chance points.

76ers 102, Kings 94

In Sacramento, Callif., Tyrese Maxey had 24 points and the short-handed Philadelphia 76ers beat Sacramento 102-94 on Monday night, spoiling Alvin Gentry's debut as interim Kings coach.

Shake Milton scored 16 points and Matisse Thybulle added 15, helping the Sixers to their second win in eight games. Andre Drummond had nine points and 23 rebounds.

De'Aaron Fox had 23 points and Buddy Hield scored 21 for the Kings.

Gentry was promoted to interim coach after the Kings fired Luke Walton on Sunday. Gentry most recently served as head coach for the New Orleans Pelicans (2015-20). He's also had head coaching stops with Miami, Detroit, the Los Angeles Clippers and Phoenix.

LeBron suspended 1 game, Stewart 2 games for altercation

LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers has been suspended for one game and Detroit's Isaiah Stewart was suspended two games for their roles in an ugly incident during Sunday's Lakers-Pistons game.

The NBA announced the suspensions Monday, and both will affect games on Tuesday. James will not play when the Lakers visit Madison Square Garden to play the New York Knicks. Stewart will miss the Pistons' home game against Miami on Tuesday and their game Wednesday at Milwaukee.

James will forfeit about $284,000 in salary, while Stewart will lose about $45,000. It is the first suspension in the 19-year career of James, who has won four NBA titles with three teams.

The Lakers and Pistons meet again Sunday in Los Angeles, and James and Stewart will both be eligible to play.

Stewart, the NBA said, was disciplined for "escalating an on-court altercation by repeatedly and aggressively pursuing ... James in an unsportsmanlike manner." James merited the suspension "for recklessly hitting Stewart in the face and initiating an on-court altercation," the NBA said.

The incident happened in the third quarter, starting when James and Stewart were jostling for position during a free throw. Their arms appeared to get intertwined and James swung his elbow, making contact with Stewart, who quickly had blood streaming from above his eye. James, it appeared, attempted to defuse the situation after realizing he'd made contact with Stewart and drawn blood.

It didn't take long for most of the players from both teams—along with the referees, coaches and security personnel—to join the fray and try to keep James and Stewart separated. Within 25 seconds of the contact being made by James, there were at least 25 people on the floor. Referee Phenizee Ransom attached himself to James.

Cooler heads seemed to prevail, for a moment. Stewart was guided away from the spot where the contact occurred by teammates and coaches, though he appeared to become more incensed along the way. He then tried to double back—on multiple occasions—and run toward James. A number of people again blocked his path and made sure the incident didn't get uglier.

Pistons coach Dwane Casey said Stewart needed eight stitches to close the wound, adding that he did not think what Stewart did in reaction to the play merited a suspension.

"His eye got cracked all the way open. He was upset for a reason," Casey said.

Stewart eventually left the floor, seeming to sprint again as he did so, and there was concern that he would try to head back toward the floor through another entry tunnel. Pistons guard Cory Joseph even headed toward that tunnel, just in case—and with the blessing of referee Scott Foster, the game's crew chief.

"After Isaiah Stewart left the court, Cory was anticipating he may come around the back of (the) house and enter the Laker bench from the opposite side," Foster told a pool reporter after the game. "So, he was going to intercept him. I actually told Cory that would be good."

Stewart was assessed two technical fouls, James was assessed a Flagrant Foul Penalty 2, and both players were ejected.

James has been sanctioned multiple times by the league in the past, receiving fines for everything from flopping, skipping news conferences and kicking a water bottle. But the suspension is his first, and means he will miss the Lakers' lone game this season at Madison Square Garden—one of his favorite arenas. ***(AP)***

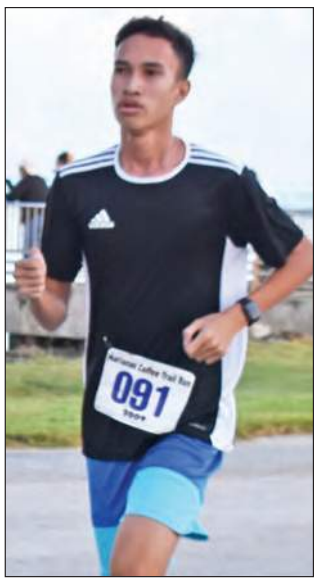
Dela Cruz

Galang

Kong

Lucido

Necesito


Veloria

Team NMI Run Saipan competes in ASICS World Ekiden 2021

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Team NMI Run Saipan finished 1,596th out of 5,952 teams that competed in the ASICS World Ekiden 2021 after completing the 42-kilometer virtual relay in a time of 4:43.46.

Dan Dan Middle School teacher Simon Necesito ran the first 5K in 43:55. He was followed by Commonwealth Health Center physician and Ran Saipan vice president Dr. Jenna Wong who ran her 5K in 24:04

Gerald Galang of the U.S. Army and Golds Gym Saipan trainer came out and did the third leg 10K in 55:06. Northern Marianas College student Sildrey Veloria did his 5K in 1:03.07, while Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting responder and Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr. completed his 10K in 1:00.20. University of Hawaii student anchored the team and finished the remaining 7.2K in 37:16.

"I did mine last Monday at 5pm. I waited until my new pair of Altras Rivera came in to do the 10K. My physical therapist prescribed these pairs to lessen the pain load on my heel. I would say it did its job. I ran from the 0.00 marker at Kilili Beach to the T Galleria traffic light intersection and back," said Dela Cruz.

He added that the six members of Team NMI Run Saipan are actually part of a track workout group that was created in August of 2019.

"I basically asked for volunteers. There's about 20 of us in the group. The first to volunteer were placed on the team. I put out what distances were for which leg and everyone got to pick their distances. I took whatever was last which was the second 10K leg," added Dela Cruz.

The Run Saipan president it felt great to finally take part in an ASICS World Ekiden event.

"To be honest I've always been getting the emails every year when I was using Runkeeper to do the race but I never had enough people in the past to run long distance let alone in a group. This first Ekiden was to run for fun and see who's interested. Next year's ASICS Ekiden we will actually train for it."

Kong, who did her portion last Nov. 13 from the Gov. Eloy S. Inos Peace Park to the American Memorial Park, said she was just happy to be part of Team NMI Run Saipan.

"The Ekiden was actually my first ever relay race so I'm very grateful to Ed for including me as part of the team! I had a fantastic time."

Lucido, who ran last Nov. 19 around the UH-Manoa campus, said it was cool being part of the all-island team despite being off-island.

"Luckily this event took place virtually and it gave me the opportunity to represent where I'm proudly from. No matter where I go, I will always be proud to be from the CNMI. It was a pleasure being able to do this. Hopefully in the future, there will be more people to make teams to represent the CNMI so that people from around the world will notice us," he said.

Veloria said it was an honor to represent the Commonwealth when he ran his segment of the Ekiden from the Oleai Beach Bar & Grill last Nov. 18.

"There are not many runners in the CNMI that are willing to take the challenge, but my team and I had a lot of fun doing it even though we did it in separate days and times. Hopefully, in the future, we won't be the only ones willing to represent the CNMI. It's a small step to a better future for athletics in the CNMI," he said.

Galang, who ran from the Marianas Medical Center to Oleai Beach Bar & Grill and back last Nov. 13, said he was also honored to represent the Commonwealth in the event.

"I feel honored and proud to be part of a team representing our islands. Especially when I saw that there were close to 6,000 teams worldwide. It really gave me a sense of accomplishment. When Ed mentioned it to me back in October, I didn't hesitate to join the team. I hope it motivates more people to start an active lifestyle especially with the new year upon us," he said.

Necesito said he was a bit under the weather when he run his 5K last Nov. 20 from the Kilili Pavilion to Monica's Furniture and back.

"To be honest I wasn't sure if I was going to run this event since I was recovering from a four-day fever. I didn't want to let my team down and was determined to get this in. For me, it's the fact that I was able to run with the Run Saipan team that motivated me to push further. I have ran alongside them for about a year now and I'm proud to represent the CNMI in this event. This was something I never would have expected to do in my life. It feels absolutely amazing!"

Northern Marianas Athletics general secretary Robin Sapong congratulated Team NMI Run Saipan for competing in the ASICS World Ekiden 2021.

"They will have a chance to win an unforgettable World Athletics Championships Oregon 2022 Experience via World Athletics/Race Roster. On completion of their race, teams will be automatically entered for a chance to win this fantastic prize. One team from each of the six area associations will be selected at random. In this case they are part of Oceania with NMA being the federation," he said.

Winners will be announced on Dec. 1, 2021.

DIAZ

From Page 20

the NMIBF instituted the project in June this year.

Diaz has been coaching players from all ages for nearly two decades and is credited for the growth and success of the Rollers Basketball Association—one the most active sports groups in the CNMI on and off the court. Pagarao, on the other hand, represented the CNMI in previous regional competitions, was part of the coaching staff of the women's team to the 2018 Micronesian Games in Yap, and co-leader (with Marlene Lumabi) of the NMIBF Mini Basketball Village Outreach Program.

Diaz ran the tryouts for the CNMI National Team Program with NMIBF development director Elias Rangamar last June and is now working with the 20 players that made the first cut for the pool that is originally training for the Micro Games. Pagarao also joined the tryouts and was among those who advanced to the next phase of the program, but is now taking on a higher responsibility with her selection as coach of the squad.

"I am excited and honored with this new journey. I look forward to working with coaches Elias Rangamar, Joe Diaz, and David Attao (NMIBF vice president). I will use my experience as a player to help prepare our team and encourage younger players to join and stick with the program," Pagarao said.

As for Diaz, he thanked the NMIBF board for the trust and confidence, and his support group, led by his wife Verna, that allows him to continue working with players, especially the youth.

"Now, this is an entirely different and tougher responsibility, but I am humbled to be given a chance to represent our islands and help prepare these dedicated and hardworking players for the FIBA Micronesia Cup. There's more work ahead of us and we need everyone's support to get our national team battle ready," Diaz said. ***(PR)***

CNMI

From Page 20

CNMI team for next month's FINA World Championships is the best the islands can assemble and all of them are aiming for high standard times.

"This meet will be the deciding factor for my college swimming. I am ready for the races and excited on the times I will bring back. I would really want to appreciate my coach and his wife for supporting us and keep us motivated every day. A very big thank to our pool and hopefully we can make all of our supporters proud," he said.

Asaka admitted to having butterflies in her stomach less than a month before the start of the FINA World Championships.

"I am nervous and excited to swim all my events because I have not swum in an actual 25m or 50m pool in a long time. I am still mastering my freestyle form; however, I am ready for the challenge and I hope to achieve good results in the World Championship," she said.

Like her sister, Shoko is also excited to compete in the FINA World Championships and can't wait to share the pool with the world's best swimmers.

"I am very excited to see the outcome for all strokes, but to have a satisfactory result, I have to train not only at practice, but at home. In my opinion, all strokes are hard, so I need to equally practice for all strokes. My coach has given me new drills to practice for my events, and my teammates gave me advice on how to fix my strokes. I will do my best and keep moving forward to reach the best I can be," she said.

Aside from Suzuki, Tenorio, and the Litulumar sisters also flying to the Middle East accompanying the swimmers is Kimura as well as Northern Marianas Swimming Federation representative and Saipan Swim Club coach Richard Sikkel.

AQUINO

From Page 20

Aquino dedicated his victory over Wessel in the men's singles 4.0 championship to his loving family.

The Negros Occidental, Philippines native said he started playing tennis when he was just 10 years old and played competitively in elementary, high school, and college where he was a member of the varsity team of the University of St. La Salle in Bacolod City. He also represented Negros Occidental in regional and national competitions.

Aquino, however, admitted that he stopped playing the sport for 10 years from 2008 to 2018 and only reignited his passion for tennis when he arrived on Saipan three years ago.

In the men's singles 5.0, boys 18-and-under champion Jimin Woo also claimed the men's open title after dismissing Colin Ramsey, 6-3, 6-2, in the finals. The No. 1 seed punched his ticket to the championship round after dismissing Luther Lizama, 6-3, 6-3. He got a bye in the first round.

Ramsey started his campaign in the men's open singles with also a bye in the first round. He then got past No. 2 seed Sean Lee, 6-3, 6-2, in the semis before being waylaid by Woo in the finals.

In the men's singles 3.0, Aguidave Jones claimed the title after overcoming a scoreless first set to turn back J-R Jacinto, 0-6, 6-2, 10-8, in the finals. Jones, the son of Dino and Letty Jones, made it to the finals after defeating Yutaka Kadokura, 4-6, 6-4, 10-6, while Jacinto advanced with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Jean Pierre Nogues.

Paul Jang, meanwhile, ruled the men's singles 50 after beating Brian Wessel and Dong Min Lee. Jang triumphed over the former, 6-2, 7-6 (3), and defeated the latter, 6-4, 6-2.

The results of the rest of the divisions of the 2021 Tan-Holdings Tennis Classic will be reported in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Tom Brady tosses 2 TDs, Buccaneers beat Giants, 30-10
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Asaka Litulumar

Jinnosuke Suzuki

Juhn Tenorio

Shoko Litulumar

CNMI swimmers ready for World Champs

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The four swimmers that the CNMI will be sending to the 15th edition of the FINA World Swimming Championships are all ready to represent the Commonwealth the best they can in the sport's showcase event set from Dec. 16 to 21 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

CNMI head coach Hiroyuki Kimura said less than a month before the start of competition, Jinnosuke Suzuki, Juhn Tenorio, and Asaka and Shoko Litulumar have been practicing regularly and training expeditiously on their individual and relay events.

The Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan mentor said Suzuki will see action in the 200m freestyle and 100m freestyle, while Tenorio will be swimming the 100m backstroke and 50m freestyle in Abu Dhabi.

As for the Litulumar sisters, Kimura said Asaka will plunge in the pool racing in the 100m freestyle and 50m freestyle with Shoko competing in the 50m breaststroke and 50m backstroke.

In the relay, all four will see action in the 50m x 4 freestyle relay, while in the 50m x 4 medley relay, Tenorio will start first with the backstroke followed by Suzuki in the breaststroke with Shoko and Asaka completing the race with the butterfly and freestyle, respectively.

Suzuki said he can't wait to represent the CNMI in the 2021 FINA World Swimming Championships in the Abu Dhabi.

"I will keep practicing and taking care or my body until the day of the race and hope that all my hard work pays off," he said.

Tenorio believes that the

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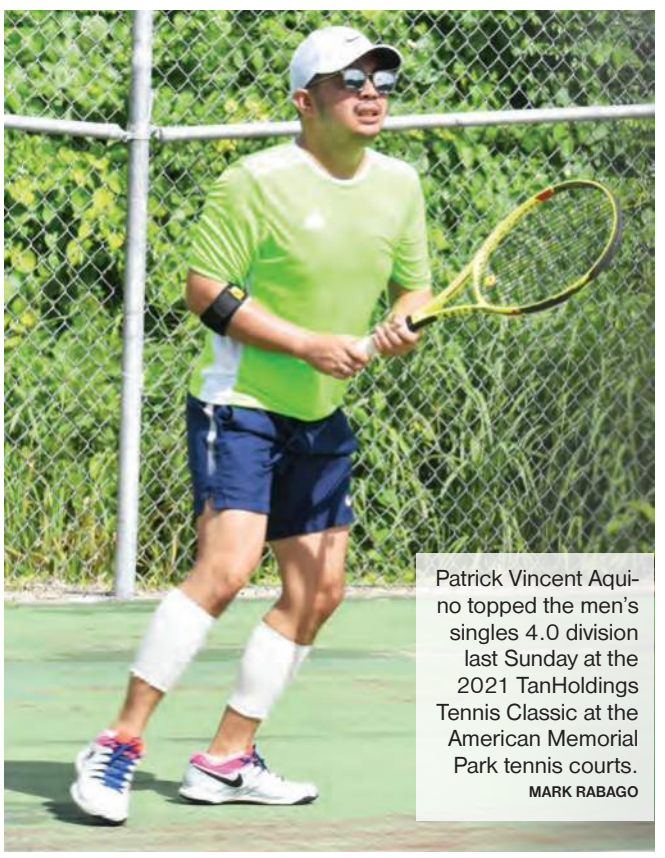
Aquino tops men's singles 4.0



Patrick Vincent Aquino topped the men's singles 4.0 division last Sunday at the 2021 TanHoldings Tennis Classic at the American Memorial Park tennis courts. MARK RABAGO

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Patrick Vincent Aquino finally won his first singles title after topping the men's 4.0 division last Sunday at the 2021 TanHoldings Tennis Classic at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

The 34-year-old Golden Harvest International School staff beat No. 2 seed Nason Wessel in the finals and prevailed, 6-2, 6-1.

Aquino advanced to the championship round after beating top seed Wataru Kadokura, 6-4, 6-2. He earlier defeated another junior netter, June Yu, in the first round, 6-1, 6-1. Wessel's path to the finals saw him outlast Quintin Ramsey, 4-6, 6-0, 10-3, after getting a bye in the opening around.

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Diaz, Pagarao named national coaches

Irish Pagarao, seen here driving against two players during last month's 3x3 tournament at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, has been selected to coach the NMI Women's National Team. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Coach Joe Diaz gives pointers to NMI National Team Program member Madi Alegre during a break in their training session at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last month. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation has named veteran coach Joe Diaz and former national player Irish Pagarao as head coaches of the CNMI national teams that will be competing in the first FIBA Micronesia Cup.

"We are pleased to announce the selection of Joe Diaz and Irish Pagarao as coaches of our national teams. The NMIBF gives its full confidence to coaches Joe and Irish. They have been with our national team program since the beginning and have shown the commitment and efforts to help form competitive and well-trained national squads for the FIBA Micronesia Cup," NMIBF president James Lee said.

Lee added that the NMIBF will be preparing teams first for the FIBA Micronesia Cup, which will be held late next year and will be used as a qualifier for the 2023 Pacific Games in the Solomon Islands after the 2022 Micronesian Games in the Marshall Islands has been postponed to 2023 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Besides the CNMI, others teams eligible to compete in the FIBA Micronesia Cup are Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, and Nauru.

Diaz will call the shots for the men's national squad, while Pagarao will work with the women's crew. The two coaches have been part of the CNMI National Team Program since Day 1 when

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